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PART VI.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF THIBET.

1905.

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## Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of Thibet.

### PART VI.

#### No. 1.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received January 3.)*

(No. 1.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, January 3, 1905.*

PLEASE refer to your Lordship's telegram No. 183 respecting Thibet.

It appears as though the despatch No. 215 of the Indian Government was written before it had been decided that Calcutta should be the place where the negotiations should take place with regard to Chinese adhesion to the Thibetan Convention. As this question may be brought up in the course of these negotiations, I consider it would be better if no steps were taken here.

Tang will be assisted by Henderson, as I had the honour to report in my despatch No 418 of the 7th December.

It is shown by the instructions issued to the first Commissioner of Customs, of which mention is made in despatch No. 215 of the Indian Government, that the Commissioner had other duties to perform as well as the collection of customs, and independently of them. I would suggest they might be asked whether the manner in which successive Commissioners have performed these duties has given them cause for dissatisfaction.

#### No. 2.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received January 6.)*

Sir,

*India Office, January 3, 1905.*

WITH reference to my letter of the 21st November, forwarding papers relating to the rough draft of the Trade Regulations to be negotiated with Thibet under the terms of the Convention of the 7th September, 1904, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to inclose, to be laid before the Marquess of Lansdowne, copies of telegraphic correspondence with the Viceroy as to clauses 1 and 13 of the draft Regulations.

Mr. Brodrick will be glad to be favoured with the views of Lord Lansdowne on the proposal of the Government of India (1) to claim the same treatment for British goods and subjects as is accorded to China, and (2) to stipulate that no monopolies shall be granted by the Thibetan Government without the previous consent of the Government of India.

As regards the first of these points, it may be observed that Colonel Young-husband reported on the 1st October last that "China levies no taxes and derives no revenue from Thibet, but I have not heard that the Thibetan Government levies any taxes on Chinese goods." If this is the case, it will apparently be impracticable



under the proposed Regulations for the Thibetan Government to levy the duty contemplated in Article II on goods imported from India, unless a similar duty is imposed on Chinese goods. Further, the stipulation for equality of treatment as regards "privileges and facilities" would apparently involve the grant to British subjects of the right to trade in all places in Thibet in which the Chinese trade, whereas the places to which British subjects have the right of access are strictly limited under Article II of the Convention.

As regards the question of monopolies, Mr. Brodrick agrees with the Government of India that it would be desirable to have a veto on them, but he is doubtful whether the effective enforcement of the veto may not lead to complications with the Thibetan Government. The grant of a monopoly to the subjects of a foreign Power would be in contravention of Article IX, clause (d), of the Convention.

I am, &c.

(Signed) A. GODLEY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

*Mr. Brodrick to Viceroy of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*India Office, December 7, 1904.*

THIBET.

Please refer to the letter from Foreign Secretary No. 44, inclosing draft Trade Regulations.

With regard to Article 1 of draft, please state whether intention is that same treatment as is accorded to Chinese subjects and goods is to be claimed for ours.

With regard to Article 13, you will bear in mind, in connection with the proposed veto on monopolies, that His Majesty's Government are pledged not to interfere in the internal administration of Thibet.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

*Viceroy of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

*December 23, 1904.*

YOUR telegram of the 7th December: Thibet Trade Regulations.

Article 1. Reply is in affirmative.

Article 13. Unless monopolies are prohibited, right to trade freely in Thibet may be rendered nugatory, as in Congo State. This is understood to be attitude of His Majesty's Government towards monopolies in China, Persia, and Turkey, where no right to interfere in internal administration is claimed. Political importance of keeping out foreign and Chinese concession-mongers is obvious, but we also wish to provide for prevention, without incurring odium, of an inrush of British speculators in search of Gold-mine and other Concessions, as this might lead to friction between two Governments, and involve the interference which it is desired to avoid. For above reasons we deprecate abandonment of provision.

No. 3.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, January 7, 1905.*

ON the receipt of your letter of the 14th ultimo, His Majesty's Minister at Peking was, as you are aware, requested by telegraph to furnish an expression of his views on the proposals contained in the letter from the Government of India of the



10th November, with regard to the future position in Thibet of the officers of the Chinese Imperial Customs Service under the Regulations as to trade to be made in accordance with Article II of the Thibet Convention.

I am directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to transmit to you, to be laid before the Secretary of State for India, a copy of a telegram which has been received from Sir E. Satow in reply.\*

It will be observed that His Majesty's Minister recommends that the question should be left to be dealt with in the negotiations which are to take place at Calcutta between the Chinese Commissioner and the Government of India.

As regards the last paragraph of Sir E. Satow's telegram, Lord Lansdowne is not aware of the terms of the instructions issued by the Chinese Government to the First Commissioner of Customs. His Lordship would, however, suggest, for Mr. Secretary Brodrick's consideration, that the Government of India should be asked, as proposed by Sir E. Satow, whether they have reason to be dissatisfied with the manner in which successive Commissioners have performed their duties.

There does not appear to Lord Lansdowne to be any objection to a stipulation in the Trade Regulations that the collection of the duties by the Thibetans shall be subject to the inspection of the British Agents.

As regards the suggestion of the Government of India that the proceeds of the duties should be assigned to the service of the indemnity, I am to say that his Lordship sees no objection to that course.

His Lordship concurs in Mr. Brodrick's proposal to warn the Government of India to use no language inconsistent with the recognition of the Chumbi Valley as part of Thibet.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

No. 4.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, January 11, 1905.*

I LAID before the Marquess of Lansdowne your letter of the 3rd instant, inclosing copies of telegraphic correspondence with the Viceroy of India relative to clauses 1 and 13 of the proposed Trade Regulations with Thibet.

As regards the proposal of the Government of India to claim the same treatment for British goods and subjects as is accorded to China, Lord Lansdowne feels some doubt whether it is open to this country to claim in all respects the same treatment as that conceded to the Suzerain Power, but, however this may be, he is of opinion that it is primarily to the Convention of the 7th September itself that His Majesty's Government must look for a definition of British rights and privileges, and his Lordship therefore considers that the Thibetans would have good ground for complaint if, after signing a Convention giving British traders access to Gartok and Gyantse and undertaking to levy no dues of any kind other than those provided for in the Tariff, they found that under the Regulations His Majesty's Government claimed for British subjects a right of access to all parts of Thibet and exemption from all duties. His Lordship therefore concurs in the view expressed by the Secretary of State for India relative to clause 1.

Mr. Secretary Brodrick was informed in the letter from this Office of the 31st ultimo that Lord Lansdowne considered it preferable to omit from clause 13 the stipulation that the consent of the Government of India must first be obtained before any monopolies are granted by the Thibetan Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.



No. 5.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received January 13.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in letters from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, relative to Thibet affairs.

Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

*India Office, January 12, 1905.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

*Captain O'Connor to Foreign Secretary, Calcutta.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Gyantse, November 25, 1904.*

YOUR cypher telegram, dated the 24th November.

Reference paragraph regarding possible deputation of Thibetan Envoy to intercede regarding terms of the Treaty with Viceroy, and perhaps with King. As I believe it has been decided to reduce amount of indemnity and terms of occupation of Chumbi Valley, cannot we make capital out of this concession by informing Thibetans that King and Viceroy are prepared to consider substantial reduction of indemnity and period of occupation of Chumbi Valley in the event of deputation of influential Thibetans making personal representation on the subject either in Calcutta or London, as Government think fit? If I were permitted to hint to this effect, I believe that I could secure deputation of leading men to visit either Calcutta or London, say, next spring. Such a deputation would have best political result, would act as counterblast to Dorjeiff's Missions to Czar, and effect on mind of Thibetan Delegates, after seeing something of wonders of modern science and war establishments, would constitute best guarantee for the future tranquillity of country.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

*Political Officer, Sikkim, to Foreign Secretary, Calcutta.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Gantok, December 9, 1904.*

HENDERSON proposes starting for Gyantse 11th. Is he to be allowed to go?

Inclosure 3 in No. 5.

*Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, to Captain O'Connor.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 10, 1904.*

YOUR telegram 25th November, regarding deputation of leading Thibetans to Calcutta, was, we presume, dispatched prior to receipt of our letter dated the 15th November. You have full liberty, if you think it advisable, to deliver invitation suggested in concluding sentence of that letter, but declaration regarding reduction of indemnity and evacuation of Chumbi Valley is absolute, and must not be made conditional on acceptance of invitation.



## Inclosure 4 in No. 5.

*Captain O'Connor to Foreign Secretary, Calcutta.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Gyantse, December 11, 1904.*

YOUR telegram dated the 10th December.

My telegram of 25th November was dispatched prior to receipt of your letter dated 15th November. This letter was received 4th December, and translations and covering letter, according to instructions contained therein, were dispatched to Lhasa on 8th. Invitation to Calcutta, as suggested in last sentence, was also delivered, but acceptance was clearly made optional, not conditional. Papers were posted to you on 9th December.

## Inclosure 5 in No. 5.

*Maharajah Chandra Shamsher Jang, Prime Minister and Marshal of Nepal, to the Honourable the Four Kazis of Lhasa.*

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

*6th Mangsir, 1961 (November 20, 1904).*

I AM in receipt of your letter, dated Friday, the 6th Ashwin Badi, Sambat 1961, and have gone through the contents thereof. The friendly and fraternal relations that have subsisted between our two Governments for such a long time no doubt warrant the free and frank expression of your views to me on the subject of the Treaty recently concluded between the British Commissioners and yourselves at Lhasa.

I am glad to find that you have properly appreciated the grounds of my inability to depute an officer from here to Lhasa as requested by you; as also to learn from you that the conduct of my Representative there on your behalf during the progress of the negotiations was all that could be desired. I, however, regret to read in your letter that the arrangement recently made has, for reasons mentioned therein, failed to give you satisfaction; but I am afraid that your Government's continued disregard of the previous Treaties, their persistent refusal to open negotiations properly with the British Government, even when repeatedly called upon by them to do so, and their subsequent hostile attitude and armed resistance to the British Commissioners, are, perhaps, mainly responsible for this. Although, in view of our intimate friendly relations of long standing, and on account of your earnest appeal to me for friendly services in having your objections and difficulties represented properly to, and removed by, the British Government, I should consider it advisable for me to do so, yet the past conduct of your Government, in not having acted up to the spirit of the letters, advices, instructions, and warnings that I had sent them from time to time on this subject, and the serious consequences that resulted therefrom, made me hesitate at first in moving at once in the matter. But convinced that you would profit by your past bitter experience and considering that the course adopted by you of having your objections and difficulties properly ventilated and represented before the British Government, was a proper one, and indicated good faith and returning good sense on your part, I have forwarded a copy of the translation in English of your letter under reply for favourable consideration of the Government of India through the British Resident here, with such remarks as I thought proper and conducive to your best interests. I believe that the Great Viceroy of the powerful British Government may consider your case favourably, if he is fully convinced of your good faith towards them in the future, by reducing a portion of the amount of the indemnity and in other suitable ways.

I must impress upon you that a Treaty is a solemn and sacred business, which one should try to religiously carry out, when once it has been made, and should on no account be thought of being evaded or nullified on pain of serious consequences. In case you have any grievances in the matter, I entirely agree with you that the best course to be adopted therein is to lay them properly and respectfully before the Government of India, who, I am sure, will, if possible, try to help you in the matter. I am fully convinced that the British Government have no intention of dealing harshly with you. As an illustration of the high sense of justice which animates the British Government, I may here cite the case of the Chinese Empire, whose threatened



integrity a few years ago by Russia and other Powers was upheld by the courageous determination and prompt interference of the British Government—a fact which the Chinese there must also be very well aware of. I have no doubt that the British Government have been moved to enter into definite and closer relations with you by motives of mutual well-being and averting a common danger. From these it may be inferred that, when the British Government has been convinced of your good faith and friendly feelings towards them, they will surely proceed to meet your wishes by mitigating your grievances and relieving your burdens.

Inclosure 6 in No. 5.

*Assistant Commissioner White to Foreign Secretary, Calcutta.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Gantok, December 13, 1904.*

YOUR 4156 E.-B.

1. Henderson interests himself about Carrying Company of Major Hunt, late Secretary, Darjeeling Club. This is probable reason for his going to Gyantse.

2 and 3. Lately received Sir Robert Hart's letter, which may have influenced him in going now. He talks of going later. Chinese authorities probably sanctioned his going.

Inclosure 7 in No. 5.

*Assistant Political Officer, Chumbi, to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Chumbi, November 19, 1904.*

WITH reference to your demi-official letter, dated the 10th instant, received here on the 16th instant, I send herewith under registered cover the Thibetan paper and a translation of its contents.

*Translation of Inclosure of Resident of Nepal's Letter dated October 22, 1904.\**

MY letter is concerned with affairs of public interest, and is as follows:—

On the 15th day of the 6th month in the 30th year of the reign of the Chinese Emperor, Kangshu,† I have received a letter from you, Dalai Lama, and one from the assembly of both monks and laymen that constitutes the Tsondu‡. In those letters it is clearly written that the British soldiers have penetrated into this part of Thibet and have arrived at Chushur,§ and that you request me that they may be prevented from coming to Lhasa. Now, formerly, when the British soldiers were at Gyantse, although you, Dalai Lama, sent more than 10,000 soldiers, the Thibetan soldiers were not of one mind, and therefore as soon as they heard the British troops were coming, they fled in all directions.

Now you say that whatever happens, as this is a matter of great importance, I, the Amban, must go quickly and try to stop the British, and prevent them from coming to Lhasa; that, if I cannot manage this, you will send all the monks of three monasteries,|| together with the remaining soldiers, to stop them. To this I reply that at Gyantse there was a large force of Thibetan soldiers, but these were unable to stop the British. The Tsondu represent that in any case the monks of the three monasteries, united with the remaining soldiers, will be able to stop the British. But what will the army of monks be able to effect where the Thibetan soldiery¶ have not succeeded? What is very important is that you, Dalai Lama, have come from your country residence\*\* into the Potala, and I am very glad that you have done so.

\* Letter from the Amban to the Dalai Lama.

† *i.e.*, about the 28th July, 1904.

‡ The National Assembly, attended by both priestly and lay officials below the rank of Shappe.

§ A district 20 to 30 miles from Lhasa, between Lhasa and Chaksam Ferry.

|| Sera, Drepung, and Ganden, the three large monasteries outside Lhasa, containing between them about 16,000 monks.

¶ *i.e.*, the regular troops and the Militia ("Donma") composed of laymen.

\*\* *i.e.*, Norpuling, 2 or 3 miles from the Potala.



In the Potala is the deed of investiture\* sealed by Hongti, the sovereign lord of the country. I, the Amban, will send an official to ask the British officers and soldiers not to come to the Potala, and as the Chinese and British Governments are on friendly terms, I can assure you that the British will not do any injury.

As regards the letter of the Tsondu that they will send the monks to fight the British, the monks will bring a very great disgrace on the name of Tsongkapa;† moreover, the British soldiers will refuse to heed the arguments of the Thibetans,‡ and will kill and wound many men and will burn some of the monasteries. Therefore, to-day I, the Amban, have appointed Unshun and Uochun, who hold the rank of Tusi, and have told them to go to the British camp and to discuss matters peacefully. Accordingly, Dalai Lama, please give an order to the whole of the Tsondu that the Government arms must be kept in the Government store-house, and that all the cultivators must hide away their arms. If you give the order to the Tsondu that they must do this, and they give a written agreement to you, Dalai Lama, and to us, two Ambans, that they will do it, then I, the Amban, will conduct the negotiations with the British to the best possible advantage. Therefore, the conditions of affairs being as I have represented to you above, do you, Dalai Lama, understanding it, please give me clear orders without delay?

Submitted on the 16th day of the 6th month of the 30th year of the Emperor Kangshu.‡

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Inclosure 8 in No. 5.

*Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, to Assistant Commissioner White.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 15, 1904.*

YOURS of 13th December.

Henderson should be asked for replies to inquiries, as definite information is wanted. Should he have left, these instructions might be passed on to O'Connor.

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Inclosure 9 in No. 5.

*Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, to Assistant Commissioner White.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 12, 1904.*

YOUR telegram of 9th December.

Henderson, as Chinese official, cannot be prohibited from visiting Gyantse, but all possible discouragement, consistent with strict courtesy, should be offered.

Please telegraph—

1. What is object of visit?
2. Whether it is intended to be permanent?
3. Whether it is authorized by Chinese Government?

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Inclosure 10 in No. 5.

*Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, to Captain O'Connor.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, December 12, 1904.*

SHOULD Henderson visit Gyantse, care should be taken not to recognize him as intermediary between you and Chinese, and to refuse to allow him to interfere in your direct relations with Thibetan authorities.

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\* There is in the Potala a deed of investiture of the Dalai Lama, said to have been sealed by a former Emperor of China, named Hongti. It is written in Chinese, and exhorts all persons to obey the Dalai Lama. The Thibetan here may also be read—"In the Potala is the portrait of Hongti, the sovereign lord of the country."

† The founder of the Gelukpa School of Buddhism, to which the Dalai and Tashi Lamas and a large number of the people belong.

‡ i.e., about the 29th July, 1904.



No. 6.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received January 20.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 29th December, 1904, relative to Thibet affairs.

(Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.)

*India Office, January 18, 1905.*

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Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

*Political Officer, Chumbi, to Political Agent, Sikkim.*

(Confidential.)

*Chumbi, December 10, 1904.*

I HAVE the honour to report that two Chumbi valley mule drivers and two Lhasa traders have arrived here from Lhasa. They report that everything is peaceful in Lhasa and elsewhere, that the crops have been excellent, and trade is going on as before the advent of the Mission. Other arrivals from Shigatse and the Tsang Province confirm this.

2. The arrivals from Lhasa agree also in stating that a lay official (Trungkor) and a monk official (Tse-trung) and some representatives of the monasteries started last October from Lhasa to fetch the Dalai Lama back from the Kar-ka country in Mongolia, where he is said to be staying at present with the Lama known as Jetsun Tam-pa, an Avatar of very high rank. Some more officials, both lay and monks, are to start next February, and meet the Dalai Lama on the way with provisions for the journey. It is thought that the Dalai Lama will start back from the Kar-ka country about April or May next, when the weather will be warmer, and reach Lhasa, travelling by easy stages, about September or October. It is thought in Lhasa that there will not be any disturbance of the existing order of things when he returns, since if he blames the persons who signed the Convention they will blame him for running away.

3. The copies of the Proclamation by the Amban deposing the Dalai Lama were torn down by the Thibetans, who were angry with the Amban for putting them up, denying that the Amban posted them by the orders of the Emperor of China, and denying that the Emperor of China had power to pass any such order.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

*Thakur Jai Chand to Government of India.*

(Translation.)

*Shipki, December 2, 1904.*

I BEG to report that I reached Shipki, which is in Thibetan territory, on the 1st December, 1904. A Thibetan official, Chabrang Zong, who is sort of Tahsildar of this part of the country, has come here to collect revenues. This man has stopped us from going to Gartok, and has also told off several parties of men at different places with orders that they should not allow us to proceed further. He has told me that he has written to Gartok about my arrival at this place, and that he will allow me to proceed further on receiving orders to that effect from Gartok. It will take five or six whole days for a reply to be received from that place. I am waiting for a reply as to what I should do if the Governor of Gartok also does not give us the permission to proceed. I, however, do not think that he will not permit us, but for the present we shall have to stay at Shipki for five or six days. I will inform you of the circumstances after that period. After leaving Shipki, I will go by way of Sharang Jut. This pass is not so cold nowadays, and, so far as I have been able to ascertain, it remains open till the end of January and even in February if it does not snow heavily. The Jut Budpu and Jut Nauglid (?) are closed nowadays, although they are not under snow. On account of intense cold the people do not use these passes in this season, and they are totally closed even if there is a light fall of snow. Besides, the former is not so cold.



If we receive a reply from Gartok, permitting us to proceed further, we will reach that place (Gartok) before the 20th December, taking into account the five or six days' period of detention at this place.

Directions should be sent to the Deputy Conservator, Mr. Hart, as to what I should do in case we are not permitted to proceed further. Mr. Hart will send the information to me without delay. There are no dâk arrangements beyond Spu, and even at Spu the dâk is received once a week.

All directions should be sent to me through Mr. Hart.

Inclosure 3 in No. 6.

*Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling, to Government of Bengal.*

(Confidential.)

(Extract.)

*Camp, December 5, 1904.*

SEVERAL Thibetan and Bhutanese traders have passed through the district during the week, some on business and some on pilgrimage. Among them were three agents of the Nima Jong firm of Lhasa. These men stated that the recent rioting case at Lhasa, in which five Chinese and seven Khampas were killed, has been settled; no punishments have been inflicted, as neither side was held to be solely responsible for the riot. These men also stated that a Professor from the Sera Monastery, with a clerk and 70 or 80 attendants and 400 mules, has gone towards Nagchuka to receive the Dalai Lama and escort him back to Lhasa; it is expected that the people generally will welcome the Dalai Lama back with open arms, though the Chinese are not looking forward to his return. When the Dalai Lama left Lhasa he was accompanied by Dorjief, who was then in charge of the Deba Shung mint at Lhasa, and was engaged on devising a new mould for the Thibetan coinage.

No. 7.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received January 28, 1905.)*

(No. 404. Confidential.)

My Lord,

*Peking, November 29, 1904.*

YESTERDAY I received a farewell call from Mr. T'ang Shao-yi previous to his leaving Peking on his way to Calcutta. He said that he would spend a fortnight at Tien-tsin, and perhaps an equal time with his relations at Canton, so that he might perhaps not reach Calcutta for another eight or nine weeks. He was provided with full powers, and offered to communicate a copy to me. I replied that this would be useful, since the Foreign Board had merely informed me that he was a metropolitan official of the third rank with a brevet of Deputy Lieutenant-General, which would not convey a sufficiently distinct idea to the Indian Government of the functions which he was to discharge in Calcutta.

Mr. T'ang informed me that on the occasion of his audience to take leave, the Empress Dowager had remarked to him that since the privilege of collecting the taxes and of purchasing tea and other necessities in China for distribution to the monasteries was granted about seventeen years ago to the Dalai Lama the authority of the Imperial Resident had greatly diminished, and that it was necessary to take measures to restore it. Prince Ch'ing had impressed upon him the necessity of coming to a satisfactory arrangement with the Indian Government in regard to the Agreement with Thibet. He had recommended that the Dalai Lama should not be allowed to return to Lhasa until he had made his report on the state of the country. Something must be done to change existing Institutions by virtue of which some 300,000 Lamas lived in idleness, supported by the labour of a population inferior to them in number. Some years ago, when Lu Chuan-lin, now a member of the Grand Council, was Viceroy of Szechuen (1895-1897), he had recommended this policy to the Throne, but Weng T'ung-ho, who was then a Grand Councillor, had influence enough to procure the rejection of the proposal, and Lu was shortly afterwards removed to another post in consequence.

I did not offer any remark on this scheme of completely transforming the political and social organization of the country, except that it would probably require the support of a considerable armed force.

In order to draw from him some indication of the instructions he had received I related to Mr. T'ang my conversations with Prince Ch'ing on the 23rd September, when his Highness assured me that the letters addressed to the Amban by Colonel Young-



husband had completely dispelled the impression that Chinese suzerainty was diminished by the Agreement, and that the Chinese Government did not object to its having been signed with the Thibetans, and subsequently, on the 5th October, when his Highness gave such a lame explanation of the discrepancy between his language on the former occasion and that of the telegram to the Amban of the 26th September, which I had transmitted for him. I repeated that the request to China to adhere to the Agreement, and still more the public declaration made by Colonel Younghusband in Durbar, when the Agreement was signed, were sufficient proofs that the suzerainty of China was fully recognized by Great Britain. The telegram spoke of alterations in Article IX, whereas Prince Ch'ing had given me to understand that he was content to leave it unaltered, and merely would be satisfied with a statement in the Adhesion Agreement which would deprive foreign Powers of any ground of complaint.

Mr. T'ang here interjected, "would deprive them of any pretext," and proceeded to suggest that "suzerainty" was not the proper word to denote the relation of China to Thibet, but that "sovereignty" was more exact. Just as at Urga there was a Chinese Resident, so there was at Lhasa. In both cases the Lamas ruled their own people, and collected the revenues. Thibet was, therefore, a portion of the Chinese Empire in the same manner as Mongolia. As to Article IX, he regretted to say that the Chinese translation was by no means clear, and he asked me whether he could have a copy of the English original.

I replied that His Majesty's Government had not yet made it public, as it was their intention to modify the Articles relating to the indemnity and the occupation of the Chumbi Valley. The former would be diminished in amount, and the latter in length of time. There would be no actual change in the main Agreement, but these changes would, I thought, probably be introduced in the Adhesion Agreement. I promised, however, to consider the matter, adding that, as the document was signed on the 7th September, the Amban had had plenty of time himself to forward a copy to Peking.

I went on to explain that Great Britain had no desire to diminish the authority of China in Thibet, but could not admit that Russia should exercise predominant influence in a region so close to the Indian frontier. To what a low ebb, however, that authority had fallen was shown by the fact that when the Amban had asked for transport, in order to proceed to Khamba-jong and meet there the British Commissioner, it had been refused to him by the Dalai Lama. The Thibetans had also declared that they were not bound by the Frontier Convention of 1890, on the ground that they were not a party to it, and the Chinese Government had failed to enforce its observance on them.

His Majesty's Government had therefore been compelled to conclude the present Agreement directly with the Thibetans themselves, and to send their Commissioner to Lhasa to negotiate it.

Mr. T'ang informed me that it was not long after the signature of the Convention of 1890 that the Dalai Lama obtained written assurances from Russia of her readiness to protect Thibet against India. These documents, three in number, had been obtained from him by the Amban Shengtai, but at some period during the stay of the latter his subordinates had been bribed to give them up, and subsequently it was found that they had disappeared. It was believed that the Dalai Lama had them in his possession at this moment, and the Chinese Government would not feel at ease until they were recovered and destroyed.

If this remarkable story is true, it shows that Russian intrigue at Lhasa dates from a much earlier period than has hitherto been known.

Mr. T'ang repeated the information, which I had the honour to report in my telegram of the 26th instant, that the Dalai Lama is said to be within a few days' march of Urga, and that instructions have been sent to Yen-chi, the Chinese Resident there, to have him conveyed to the monastery of Kumbum, near Hsining. I had previously heard from a private source that up to the 5th instant nothing had been heard at Urga of his movements, and no preparations were being made there for his reception.

He hoped, he added, to return to Peking by the Eastern Road, through Chamdo and Tachienlu, and I commended the adoption of this route, which, I said, would afford him an opportunity of seeing that portions of Eastern Thibet were practically independent of Lhasa.

A copy of this despatch will be forwarded to the Government of India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.



No. 8.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.*—(Received January 28, 1905.)

(No. 410.)

My Lord,

Peking, December 2, 1904.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 173 of the 26th November, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a translation of the full powers conferred upon Tang Shao-yi by the Emperor of China for the purpose of negotiating the Thibetan Treaty.

Copy has also been sent to the Acting Viceroy of India.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

ERNEST SATOW.

Inclosure in No. 8.

*Decree.*

(Translation.)

THE Imperial Commands of His Majesty the Emperor of China to Tang Shao-yi-expectant metropolitan official of the third rank, with brevet of a Deputy Lieutenant-General.

Whereas Thibet is a possession of China, Conventions relating to Thibet and India were concluded between China and Great Britain in the sixteenth and nineteenth years of our reign, and the present negotiations of supplementary stipulations should still naturally be deliberated upon, amended, and satisfactorily settled by China in conjunction with Great Britain.

We therefore by these presents appoint you as our Plenipotentiary for Treaty negotiations to proceed (to India) and to consider with the Plenipotentiary appointed by Great Britain a satisfactory understanding, and to affix your signature conjointly with him. When (what you agree upon) has been ratified, we will appoint an official to exchange (ratifications).

The officers of your suite shall submit themselves to your instructions, and you shall use all your strength of mind and body in our service, and in no wise neglect the mission which is confided to you.

A Special Decree: This 6th day of the 10th month of the 30th year of Kuang Hsü.

No. 9.

*India Office to Foreign Office.*—(Received February 1.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a despatch to the Government of India, Secret No. 3, dated the 20th January, with inclosures, relative to the position of officers of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Service who at present hold appointments in Thibet.

*India Office, January 30, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 9.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Secret.)

My Lord,

*India Office, January 20, 1905.*

WITH reference to the letter from the Government of India (Secret, External) of the 10th November, 1904, relative to the position of the officers of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Service who at present hold appointments in Thibet, I forward herewith, for the guidance of your Excellency's Government, a copy of correspondence\* with the Foreign Office on the subject.

\* See Part V, No. 87; and *ante*, No. 3.



2. Your Excellency will see that His Majesty's Minister at Peking, who has been consulted, recommends that the subject should be left to be dealt with in the negotiations which are to take place at Calcutta. He points out that the duties performed by these officers are not confined to the collection of customs, and he suggests that it should be ascertained whether your Excellency's Government have reason to be dissatisfied with the manner in which these other duties have been performed by successive Commissioners. I request that I may be furnished with a report on this point, in the event of your Excellency wishing to include in the negotiations the question of the removal of officers of the Chinese Imperial Customs Service. I should add that no copy of the instructions to the first incumbent of the office, referred to in the second paragraph of your letter, appears to have been received at this Office or the Foreign Office.

3. As regards the proposal for the Indian control of the Customs arrangements to be included in the settlement of the Tariff, your Excellency will see from the correspondence inclosed that there is no objection to stipulations that the collection of the duties by the Thibetans shall be subject to the inspection of the British agents, and that the proceeds of the duties should be assigned to the service of the indemnity.

4. As regards the place for levying the customs, which you state should be "at the frontier between the Chumbi Valley and Thibet proper," I would point out the necessity of avoiding language which could be construed as inconsistent with the recognition of the Chumbi Valley as part of Thibet.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. JOHN BRODRICK.

No. 10.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received February 1.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a Secret despatch to the Government of India, dated the 27th January, and inclosures, relative to the Thibet Trade Regulations.

*India Office, January 30, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 10.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Secret.)

My Lord,

*India Office, January 27, 1905.*

WITH reference to your Excellency's telegram of the 23rd December, 1904, as to the draft of the Trade Regulations to be negotiated with the Thibetan Government, under clause 3 of the Convention of the 7th September, 1904, I forward, for the information and guidance of your Excellency's Government, copy of correspondence with the Foreign Office on the subject.\*

2. As regards the proposal to demand the same treatment for British goods and subjects as is accorded to China, His Majesty's Government consider it doubtful whether it is open to them to claim in all respects the same treatment as that conceded to the Suzerain Power, and they are of opinion, having regard to Articles II and IV of the Convention, that the Thibetans would have good ground for complaint if a claim were made under the Regulations to the right of access for British subjects to all parts of Thibet, and to exemption from all duties.

3. As regards the question of monopolies, His Majesty's Government think it desirable to omit from Article 13 of the Regulations the words requiring the previous consent of your Excellency's Government to the grant of any monopoly by the Thibetan Government. Such a provision appears to be superfluous, and likely to give rise to objections on the part of other Governments similar to those made in regard to Article IX of the Convention.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. JOHN BRODRICK.

\* See Part V, No. 96; and *ante*, Nos. 2 and 4.



No. 11.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received February 7.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copies of inclosures in letters from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 5th and 12th January, relative to Thibet affairs.

Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

*India Office, February 6, 1905.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

*Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Camp, viâ Segowlie, December 7, 1904.*

I HAVE the honour to forward a translation of information received from Digarcha, and also from a Mongol pilgrim who has recently come to Nepal, which has some connection with the late British Mission.

2. Ditha Tilman Gurang, who is a subordinate under the Nepal Representative at Lhasa, had no authority to speak to the British officers in the way he reports, and the Prime Minister, while expressing regret, will take suitable notice of his action.

*Translation of Information received from Ditha Tilman Gurang from Digarcha.*

News has been received here of the return of the British from Lhasa, after having concluded a Treaty there, and also of their arrival at Gyantse. The Chinese here had stuck up a Proclamation in the bazaar, in which it was stated that the Potala Lama has been deposed for his having waged a war with the British without the approval or sanction of the Government of China and for his fleeing from Lhasa, and that the Maha Guru (Grand Lama) of Digarcha has been appointed in his place, on account of which he was desired to go to Lhasa to carry on the work. Accordingly, the Chinese here requested the said Lama to proceed to Lhasa, but he sent a reply to Lhasa, stating that he was unwilling to comply with the request, and adding that, if he be so required to go, he should receive an order to that effect from His Majesty the Emperor of China, and the four Kazis of Kaysal, with the principal monks of the monasteries, should wait on him to take him to Lhasa after having handed over to him a written request on the subject duly signed and sealed by them. No reply to this communication has yet come.

The Thibetans here appeared to be somewhat displeased with our traders here, who have business transactions on the Gyantse side, for their having traded with those whom they considered to be their enemies.

The Thibetans here say that six or seven British officers, with fifty or sixty sepoy, are coming to Digarcha, where they will stay for some six or seven days and then proceed towards the north-west, with a view to establish a trading depôt at a place called Teoghar, which lies about a month's journey away from here, and where there is said to be salt and gold mines. It is said that arrangements have been made to establish trade depôts at Gyantse and Phari also. The coming of the British here has been notified by the local jong to the people and the traders here, who have been ordered to put out for sale their best goods and trade with the British, and desiring all to appear with their best ornaments in their persons when the British come, and also each to have a pair of Thibetan shoes ready for himself. The arrival of the British is expected here in a day or two. Although it is said that a Treaty has been concluded, from the manner and mode of talking of the Thibetans, I am inclined to believe that they are not at all satisfied with it. I suspect that the jong on this side



is secretly providing "rasads" (provisions) to certain troops that are perhaps concealed somewhere, presumably at a place called Nibho; and also that, if they receive any encouragement or succour from Russia, they would probably attack the British some time in Kartic or Mangsir.

Before I could post the above information to your Highness, seven or eight British officers, who had returned from Lhasa, arrived here on Friday, the 5th Ashwin Sudi, and put up at a garden house of the maternal-uncle of the Grand Lama of this place. The next day the kazi of the said Lama called on them, and a day after that they paid a visit to the said Lama. I also went to see them and inquire after their welfare, as I had instructions from your Highness to behave in a cordial and friendly manner with the British, should I happen to meet them. In the course of the conversation, they informed me that they had met our Captain at Lhasa; that they returned from there after having concluded a Treaty; and that they would stay here for ten or twelve days and return towards Gyantse. I asked what the terms of the Treaty were. They replied that it has been arranged to establish trading depôts at Gyantse, Phari, and Gartok. They also said that two or four of them will proceed from here to Gartok to see the place, and thence proceed to India on the Simla side. I said that I had no information at all of their coming here, and that, as I was stationed here by my Government, would it not be better for me to acquaint my Government of it before they proceeded further up from here, because in our last war with Thibet our troops had advanced as far up as this place and have left marks of cannon balls fired from their guns on the jong, of which they must also be aware of. They assured me that they have arranged the matter of their proceeding towards Gartok with the Thibetan Government; that they have also talked over the matter with our Captain, the Representative at Lhasa; and that the Lath Sahab has also written to your Highness on the subject. They then asked me how many days it takes for letters to go from here to Nepal, and on my replying that it takes twenty or twenty-five days, said that they could obtain a reply through their post in about twelve days. I was then asked to direct our traders to trade on the Phari-Gyantse side, to which I replied that it should be done slowly and cautiously. I then, telling them that they could command my services if required, returned to my lodging.

Four British officers, with twenty or twenty-five men, started on 9th and 10th Ashwin Sudi for Gartok. The remaining officers will return towards Gyantse in three or four days.

Dated Ashwin Sudi, 13th Friday, 1961 (October 21st, 1904).

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*Translation of Information brought by one who has been engaged here in Nepal to watch the Movements of Travellers from Thibet.*

One Chhulthin Gyamchho, Lama of Peredo Village of Sopusthan, with a party of three others, have come here by the Kute route. In reply to the various inquiries put to him, he said that they have come here on a pilgrimage to Baudha and Simbhu, and intend to go back after a stay of six or seven days; that the Potala Lama had gone four marches beyond Nakechewkha with a retinue of seventy-five men or so, and was accompanied by Khendechhega or Chhengi Khembu and a Mongolian merchant; and that though they had met him, they did not pay respects to him, as they did not know who he was. That a day after they had proceeded onward towards Lhasa, after having met him on the way, they heard that the Potala Lama was on his way viâ Mongolia to ask assistance of His Majesty the Emperor of China and Russia, and that he would come back with troops in the month of Baisakh or Jaistha to Lhasa and would crush down the British; and that on their arrival at Lhasa they heard that, although an arrangement has been made with the British, a big war would break out afresh with them. They also heard that the British who were then at Lhasa were going to return towards Darjeeling in about fifteen or twenty days' time.

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## Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Gyantse, December 23, 1904.*

YOUR telegram 4,178 E.-B.

As far as I can ascertain, Chinese trade is not liable to Thibetan Customs dues, except for a small tax, or rather toll, of 4 anna(s) per head levied upon each baggage animal passing Phari, and tax of  $\frac{1}{12}$  per cent. levied at Lhasa on imports from China. Duty is, however, levied by Chinese authorities on Chinese and other merchants upon goods entering Thibet via Ta'chen-lu and other China-Thibetan frontier marts.

## Inclosure 3 in No. 11.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.**Gyantse, December 8, 1904.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated Simla, the 15th November, 1904, and also of the Declaration signed by his Excellency the Viceroy, and the despatch from yourself to the Ti-Rimpoche which accompanied it.

2. In accordance with the instructions contained in the above-quoted letter, I have to-day forwarded to the Ti-Rimpoche the signed Declaration and the despatch in original, accompanied by translations in Thibetan. They are accompanied by a covering letter from myself, of which I attach a copy, as also the Thibetan translations of all these documents.

3. In accordance with the last paragraph of your letter, I have addressed a second communication to the Ti-Rimpoche regarding a possible deputation of high Thibetan officials to Calcutta, in order to secure the ratification of his Excellency the Viceroy upon their own copy of the Treaty. I inclose also a copy of this letter with its Thibetan version.

4. I am also sending a short letter to the Tashi Lama to inform him of the gracious act of his Excellency the Viceroy in reducing the amount of the indemnity and the term of the occupation of Chumbi, and to acquaint him with the fact that this consideration on the part of the Government of India is in a great measure due to the friendly attitude of the Thibetans since the signature of the Treaty.

## Inclosure 4 in No. 11.

*Captain O'Connor to the Ti-Rimpoche.**Gyantse, December 8, 1904.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in accordance with our usages, it is customary for the final ratification of a Treaty to be inscribed upon the same sheet as the original document, in order to avoid the possibility of doubts or misapprehension arising regarding the fact of ratification. I am, therefore, instructed to inform you that, should the Thibetan Government desire to have the ratification of his Excellency the Viceroy inscribed upon their copy of the Treaty, his Excellency extends to your Holiness, or to other high officials of your Government, a cordial invitation to visit Calcutta, bringing your copy of the Treaty for the above-mentioned purpose, and his Excellency assures you of a most hearty welcome at Calcutta when the friendly relations between India and Thibet, which have been so happily inaugurated, will be still further strengthened and confirmed.



## Inclosure 5 in No. 11.

*Captain O'Connor to the Ti-Rimpoche.**Gyantse, December 8, 1904.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith in original, accompanied by translations in Thibetan, a despatch addressed to you by Mr. S. M. Fraser, Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, together with a Declaration signed by his Excellency the Viceroy, Lord Ampthill, whereby his Excellency ratifies the Convention signed at Lhasa on the 7th September, 1904, between Colonel F. E. Younghusband, C.I.E., British Commissioner for Thibet Frontier Matters, on behalf of His Britannic Majesty's Government, and by you and the Representatives of the Council, of the three monasteries, and of the ecclesiastical and lay officials of the National Assembly, on behalf of the Government of Thibet. You will observe that, in addition to ratifying the above-mentioned Convention, his Excellency is pleased, as an act of grace, to direct that the indemnity of 75 lakhs of rupees payable by the Thibetans, in accordance with the terms of the Treaty, shall be reduced to 25 lakhs, or to one-third of the whole amount; and that the term of the British occupation of Chumbi be reduced from seventy-five to three years, provided that the first three instalments of the indemnity are regularly paid, and all the other terms of the Treaty observed in the meantime.

2. It is a great pleasure to me to be intrusted with the duty of forwarding to your Holiness his Excellency's gracious communication, and to be able to congratulate your Holiness and the other members of the Thibetan Government, and the people of Thibet generally, upon so substantial a reduction of the terms to which you agreed at Lhasa. To be spared the payment of 50 lakhs of rupees is a very great concession, and to recover the Chumbi Valley after three instead of after seventy-five years, will, I am sure, cause great satisfaction to Thibetans all over the country.

3. But it is equally a source of satisfaction to the British Government, and to all friends of the Thibetans, to remember that these great concessions have been earned by the Thibetans themselves, both by their observance of the terms of the Treaty since its signature, and by the friendly attitude they have displayed towards British subjects at Lhasa, at Gyantse, at Shigatse, and elsewhere in Thibet, including the road to Gartok. This friendly attitude seems to point to the fact that the Thibetan Government have resolved to abide firmly by the terms of the new Treaty, and to allow no ill-disposed persons to interfere in any way with the friendship now begun between England and Thibet. I again congratulate your Holiness and all your colleagues most heartily upon the good fortune which your own friendly attitude, and his Excellency the Viceroy's kindness, have conferred upon you, and I trust that the good relations now so well inaugurated may continue without a break for ever.

## Inclosure 6 in No. 11.

*Government of India to the Editor, "Whitaker's Almanack," London.**Calcutta, December 19, 1904.*

I AM directed to invite attention to the statement on p. 508 of "Whitaker's Almanack" for the year 1904, where Yatung is described as a "Treaty port." I am to explain that this description is incorrect; Yatung was opened as a trade mart for British subjects in accordance with the Trade Regulations appended to the Special Convention of 1893 entered into between Great Britain and China, and stands upon a different footing from the "Treaty ports" of China proper.

2. I am to suggest that the misstatement referred to should be corrected in future editions of the "Almanack."



## Inclosure 7 in No. 11.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.*

(Confidential.)

*Darjeeling, December 13, 1904.*

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my Confidential Report for the week ending on Saturday, the 10th December, 1904.

2. Mr. Chas Thungling, Officer in Command of the Chinese troops in the Chumbi Valley, has passed through Kalimpong *en route* for China, on leave. He states that the Dalai Lama has returned to Lhasa and is now at Potala; he has entirely regained his former authority. Mr. Thungling says that the Amban invited the Panchhen Rhinpoche of Tashi Lhunpo to come to Lhasa and take the position of Dalai Lama, but the latter declined the honour on the ground of his health.

3. Mr. Thungling also states that an Amban, with 1,000 troops, has arrived at Chhamdo, in Kham, to guard the Russo-Thibetan frontier.

4. Two other Chinamen who have arrived at Kalimpong support the information given by Mr. Thungling.

## Inclosure 8 in No. 11.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*December 30, 1904.*

YUTOK SHAPE is expected to arrive here 6th January. He will remain at Gyantse only two days, and then proceed to take up his quarters at Dongtse, 12 miles down valley. I shall endeavour to ascertain from him views of Lhasa Government regarding deputation of Delegates to Calcutta. Is there any inducement which I can hold out to them to visit Calcutta? I fear they will be difficult to move unless they see some ultimate advantage to themselves in the visit. There are several small questions of compensation for outstanding claims, involving, perhaps, 4,000 rupees or 5,000 rupees, which I might use as a lever if permitted.

## Inclosure 9 in No. 11.

*Government of India to Captain O'Connor.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, January 3, 1905.*

YOUR telegram of 30th December.

You should, unless you see any objection, inform Yutok that Government of India propose to take opportunity of presence of Delegates at Calcutta to negotiate Trade Regulations with them. Point out that, until these are settled, trade between Thibet and India is free of duty under Article II of Treaty, as provision of Article IV as to establishment of mutual Tariff cannot be carried out. Stress should be laid on importance of Delegates being of adequate standing. Pressure should be avoided at present stage in regard to such claims for compensation as can be postponed without inconvenience.

## Inclosure 10 in No. 11.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.**Gyantse, December 5, 1904.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith my diary for the week ending the 4th December, 1904.



*Diary kept by Captain O'Connor for the week ending December 4, 1904.*

(Extract.)

*November 28.*—A messenger arrived with a letter from the Nepalese Resident at Lhasa giving the latest Lhasa news. According to him all is quiet, and the only anxiety felt is lest anything should occur to upset the Treaty or to disturb the present friendly relations. His letter contained a quantity of minor gossip regarding individuals and political squabbles, but nothing of any importance. I sent a man down to Shigatse to buy ponies and to pick up any information he could.

*November 29.*—The Nepalese messenger who brought the letter yesterday, and who is a sort of Aide-de-camp of the Nepalese Representative, came to call on me this morning before starting for Katmandoo, whither he is proceeding on leave.

Inclosure 11 in No. 11.

*Mr. Bell to Mr. White.*

(Confidential.)

*Chumbi, December 15, 1904.*

*Dalai Lama.*—I have the honour to report that fresh arrivals from Lhasa confirm the report that a lay official (Trung-kor), a priest-official (Tse-trung), and representatives of the Serra and Drepung Monasteries left Lhasa last October to call the Dalai Lama back to Lhasa. The lay official who has gone is the Dalai Lama's younger brother, who is known as the Tak-po Trum-pa, from his having married into the Trum-pa family, who are one of the noble families of the Lhasa province, and hold an estate also in the Tak-po country, a country containing four jongs and lying one week's journey to the south-east of Lhasa. He is also known as Trum-pe Dza-sa Ku-sho, as he holds from the Emperor of China the rank of Dza-sa, the second highest rank given to Thibetans, but wielding no power. I have stated the names of his titles at length, as confusion is apt to be caused by persons being reported under different names.

2. *Trade.*—Trade is reported to be coming down in quantities that compare favourably with former years, especially that from the direction of Shigatse. The amount of trade now passing through Chumbi seems to me to be about the same as that which passes through Kalimpong at this time of year.

3. *General.*—Everything is reported peaceful. The Thibetan soldiers have all returned home. The people of Phari say that peace has been concluded between the British and Thibetans for a period of seventy-five years, and that therefore traders may come without fear. This would, perhaps, constitute a reason against changing the seventy-five years' term of occupation of the Chumbi Valley.

4. *Te-ling Ku-sho.*—It seems clear that Te-ling Ku-sho is at Shigatse working as a De-pon. Like the four Shapes and many of the present officials, he has not yet been confirmed by the Emperor of China, but his confirmation is expected within two or three months.

Inclosure 12 in No. 11.

*Mr. Bell to Mr. White.*

*Chumbi, December 24, 1904.*

*Dalai Lama.*—I have the honour to report that a fresh arrival from Lhasa, one of the Kashmiri Mahommedans there, states that a former Kem-po, i.e., abbot of the Serra Monastery, and a member of the Sho-kang family of the Lhasa province, who holds the post of Dro-nyer (a sort of aide-de-camp to the Dalai Lama), were among those who started last October to fetch the Dalai Lama back to Lhasa. There are four sects or schools in the Serra Monastery, each with an abbot at its head; the Kem-po in question was the head of one of these four sects.

2. It is stated by one of the Mahommedan traders that the second eldest brother of the Dalai Lama, known as the Yap-shi Kung (the existing Dalai Lama's family is always known as Yap-shi Sar-pa), together with the Tse-cho-ling Ken-chen, who does business with Captain O'Connor at Gyantse, will start within a week or two from



now to meet the Dalai Lama. The Dalai Lama has three brothers, of whom the Trum-pe Dza-sa, mentioned in my last Frontier Commission Report, is the eldest, this Yap-shi Kung the second, and the Yap-shi Kem-po, the only one younger than the Dalai Lama, is the youngest.

3. It appears that some six or seven copies of the Proclamation deposing the Dalai Lama were posted in Lhasa by the Amban, and each was written in both Thibetan and Chinese. Some, at any rate, of them were partially torn down at night during the presence of the British troops at Lhasa, the Thibetan portions being plastered over with mud, and the Chinese portions, including the Chinese seal, with human excrement.

4. *Trade.*—Trade is coming through Chumbi in large quantities, and is likely to be larger this year than it was before the advent of the Mission.

The reasons of this increase are—

(a.) The small amount of trade done during the last two years, and the resulting surplus of Thibetan goods for export and dearness of Indian goods in Thibet.

(b.) The fact that the Mahommedan and the Nepalese traders in Lhasa are now allowed for the first time to come to India by Chumbi instead of having to make their way over rough tracks through Nepal. One of the Mahommedan traders told me that, although he has been nineteen years in Lhasa, he has never been able to come this way before, but intends to come this way always in future.

5. *Restriction on Trade.*—A trader from Chip-lung, in the Tsang province, west of Kamba Jong, has arrived here viâ Phari. He states that the traders of Chip-lung are not allowed to come through Sikkim by the La-chen route, though this is shorter for them, on the ground that they would lessen the profits of the traders of Kamba Jong.

6. I am now, as instructed by you, sending copies of these Reports to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal and to the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling.

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Inclosure 13 in No. 11.

*Mr. White to Government of India.*

*Sikkim, December 30, 1904.*

\* THE question of the administration of the Chumbi Valley has been occupying my attention for some time, and I have now the honour to address Government on the subject.

According to the Treaty we are to remain in Chumbi for at least three years, and some form of administration must during that time be carried on.

The principle which I would suggest as the basis for the most satisfactory administration would be to work as much as possible through the local Headmen. I am therefore laying the following proposals before Government for their approval:—

1. Administration of justice—

(a.) All cases\* between the inhabitants of the valley, Thibetans or Bhutanese, and any of His Majesty's subjects should be tried and settled by the Political Agent.

(b.) Cases between inhabitants of the valley and either Thibetans or Bhutanese should also be so tried, should either party wish it, otherwise I would allow such disputes to be settled by the local Headmen.

(c.) Cases between the inhabitants of the valley should be left as much as possible in the hands of their own Headmen, and I would only interfere if either party appealed against their decisions, and then only if obvious injustice had been done.

2. The question of collection of revenue is more difficult, and I am unaware if it has yet been decided that it should be collected by us, and, if collected, how it is to be disposed of. If it is decided to be collected by us, I would again use local agency,

\* British troops are quartered in the valley, and disputes are sure to arise between them and the traders, as well as the inhabitants.



collecting the rents entirely through the Headmen, following the present custom. How these collections are to be disposed of can be settled hereafter.

3. Regarding free labour, I would again follow the local custom, and take what has usually been given, and utilize it in repairing roads, and for other public works.

4. The status of the Chinese officials in the valley has to be taken into account, and the question is a very delicate one, but I am strongly of opinion that during our occupation they should not be allowed to have any jurisdiction whatever, and that they should be firmly but courteously discouraged from interfering in any way.

This can be done without hurting their feelings, and they can still be given the consideration due to their rank.

5. These Chinese officials have been in the habit of demanding what transport they require without payment. This should be discontinued, and should they require any transport, requisitions should be submitted to the Political Agent and transport paid for at local rates.

6. Regarding the Chinese European Customs Officers, I find it very difficult to give an opinion. If Government can persuade China to withdraw them, I think it would be well, as there is no doubt that they make matters more difficult for us; but I doubt if China will consent to this, and I do not think Sir R. Hart will help in any way, as it is all to China's interest to keep such men in Chumbi, or even send them to Gyantse. The present incumbent, Mr. Henderson, is a British subject, and, as such, he could no doubt be turned out, but I do not think it would be a wise move, as Sir R. Hart would only send some foreigner who would probably be infinitely more difficult to deal with.

I would advise therefore that, if Government cannot induce China to withdraw her Customs officials altogether, the best course will be to accept the situation, but to ignore them officially as much as possible.

7. In connection with the administration of the Chumbi Valley, I am of opinion that the trade agency at Gyantse should be directly under the Political Agent, and should not be made a separate charge. Continuity is especially required for the successful working of these marts in the Chumbi Valley and Gyantse, and this can only be attained by placing them under the control of one authority. This matter I discussed fully with Major Sir Francis Younghusband, and it was, I believe, on his representation the trade agency was included in this charge, and Captain O'Connor placed under me as my assistant.

I am very strongly of opinion that this charge should not be broken up, and should include Sikkim, Chumbi, Bhutan, and the trade agency at Gyantse.

I should not include Gartok in this charge, as it is too remote, but all important correspondence, political diaries, &c., should be sent from there in future for my information.

8. There should be one channel for all correspondence, which would obviate the misunderstanding and confusion as well as the delay, which is so liable to occur when it has to pass through several hands.

In addition, the Bhutan and Thibetan authorities would find it more simple, and would have more confidence, if they had only to correspond with one official instead of, as at present, having to correspond with different district officers according to the localities in which cases occur.

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No. 12.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received February 7.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of an inclosure in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 5th January, relative to the position, at Gyantse, of Mr. Henderson, the Chinese Customs officer who has succeeded Captain Parr.

*India Office, February 7, 1905.*

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Inclosure in No. 12.

*Captain O'Connor to Mr. White.*

December 24, 1904.

YOUR telegram regarding Henderson.

In compliance with your telegram of the \_\_\_\_\_, I told him that you want replies from him to those questions which I enumerated. He replied that he had made no secret of object of visit, which was of little importance, but regretted that he cannot recognize right of Indian Foreign Office to demand, categorically, explanation of the movements or motives of Chinese officials in territory under Chinese suzerainty.

No. 13.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received February 13, 1905.)*

(No. 418.)

My Lord,

Peking, December 7, 1904.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 410 of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship translation of a note which I have received from Prince Ch'ing, informing me that Mr. Henderson, Commissioner of Customs at Yatung, will be appointed to assist T'ang-tachen in conducting the negotiations with regard to Thibet.

Translation of this note has also been sent to the Acting Viceroy of India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

Inclosure in No. 13.

*Prince Ch'ing to Sir E. Satow.*

(Translation.)

Your Excellency,

November 30, 1904.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have received a communication from T'ang-tachen, Treaty Commissioner, pointing out that, in the Treaty negotiations which he is now proceeding to India to conduct, he will require assistance in his interviews and in translating correspondence, and that Mr. Henderson, the present Commissioner of Customs at Yatung, an official of the fourth grade, having long been stationed at that place and being familiar with Indo-Thibetan questions, is a proper person to appoint to assist in the Treaty negotiations. This Board has directed the Inspector-General of Customs to give the necessary instructions to Mr. Henderson, and I have now the honour to acquaint your Excellency with the above, and to request that it may be communicated to the Indian Government.

I avail myself, &c.

No. 14.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir C. Hardinge.*

(No. 55.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 15, 1905.

THE Russian Ambassador stated to me to-day that the effect produced in Russia by our conduct towards Thibet had been very marked indeed. His Excellency reminded me that when I discussed the subject with him in June, as recorded in my despatch No. 224 of the 2nd of that month, I had made certain reservations as to the action which we considered ourselves free to take towards Thibet in certain eventualities. Those reservations had been regarded with some misgivings, and it was therefore all the more satisfactory to the Russian Government to observe that, in spite of the provocation which we had received, we had scrupulously acted up to our promises.

His Excellency asked me, explaining that he had no instructions to do so, whether he was at liberty to say that our negotiations with Afghanistan did not portend any attempt to annex or occupy Afghan territory. I replied that the Mission now at Cabul had been sent in consequence of the succession of a new Ameer, but did not denote any



change in our policy towards Afghanistan. That policy was, I believed, well understood. We had always insisted that the foreign relations of Afghanistan should be under our control, but we had never attempted to appropriate Afghan territory or to interfere in its internal affairs. I presumed that I might take it that Russia on her side did not desire any change in her relations towards Afghanistan, or any disturbance of the *status quo* in that country.

His Excellency said at once that this was the case. He reminded me, however, that some arrangement providing for direct communication between Russian and Afghan officials as to local questions of a non-political character had always appeared to the Russian Government to be desirable, although, his Excellency added, that question was not to the front at the present moment.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) LANSDOWNE.

No. 15.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received February 16.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 19th January, relative to the position of the Chinese Customs officers in Thibet.

*India Office, February 14, 1905.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

*Gyantse, December 23, 1904.*

I AM writing you a line with reference to the visit here of Mr. Henderson, of the Chinese Customs Service, who left this morning. May I ask you kindly to consider this letter as of a confidential nature? Anything I was able to gather from Henderson was more or less of a private nature, but it was interesting to me to hear his views; and as he is now on his way to Calcutta to meet Tang-shao-yi, I thought it might interest you to hear them also. From what he said it appears that (from his point of view, at any rate—and this may very possibly reflect that of Sir Robert Hart and the Wai-wu Pu) we have not a leg to stand on in making a Treaty with Thibet without the full consent to that Treaty of the Suzerain Power—China. I do not, of course, know at all whether the Chinese now mean to try to modify the terms of the Treaty, but, at any rate, I think, from what Henderson said, that they do mean to try to assert themselves now and to carry things with a high hand in this country, and I think an effort will certainly be made to get rid of the British Trade Agents. Henderson talks openly of accompanying Tang-shao-yi to Lhasa, and of becoming, possibly, in the future Adviser to the Amban in a political capacity; and he even spoke of “the difficulties there would be in reforming the Thibetan Administration,” and so on. He, at any rate, has larger ambitions, and would like to see Chinese Customs officers at every trade mart, and one at Lhasa, as the Amban’s right-hand man, practically running the whole country.

I cannot say definitely what the Thibetan view of the matter is, but I believe that they are losing, or have lost, faith altogether in the Chinese, and are perfectly prepared to abide by the Treaty and to manage their own Customs (as they are perfectly capable of doing), leaving the Chinese in the enjoyment of the shadowy prestige they still possess; but if that prestige should be pressed any further, I am almost inclined to think that the Thibetans may take the law into their own hands. They are, however, still a little afraid of China sending troops to coerce them.

Henderson met with very little consideration during his visit from the Chinese here, and none whatever from the Thibetans, who altogether ignored him and showed him no attention upon the road or elsewhere.

He spoke to me quite openly about his objects in coming here (which was only to see the country and the road and to make himself *au fait* with the whole subject



before meeting Tang-shao-yi) and of his future plans, but shut up like a knife when I had to tackle him officially in accordance with instructions from White. White wired:—

“Please send me answers from Henderson to following questions required by Foreign: (1) What is object of visit to Gyantse; (2) whether intended to be diplomatic; (3) whether it is authorized by Chinese Government.”

I told Henderson of the telegram, and asked him the three questions as instructed. He appeared rather surprised; and after thinking the matter over, replied that “he had made no secret of the object of his visit, but regretted that he could not recognize the right of the Indian Foreign Office to demand categorical explanations of movements or motives of Chinese officials in territory under Chinese suzerainty”; and I wired this answer to White. It would, I think, have been possible to have obtained the required information from him quietly (I practically did so—as to the third question, he had already told me that he had Hart’s consent), but he objected to being asked officially.

Please excuse this long letter. I thought it might interest you to hear about Henderson, especially as you will meet him in Calcutta before long.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

*Mr. White to Government of India.*

(Extract.)

*Calcutta, December 30, 1904.*

6. REGARDING the Chinese European Customs officers, I find it very difficult to give an opinion. If Government can persuade China to withdraw them I think it would be well, as there is no doubt that they make matters more difficult for us; but I doubt if China will consent to this, and I do not think Sir R. Hart will help in any way, as it is all to China’s interest to keep such men in Chumbi, or even send them to Gyantse. The present incumbent, Mr. Henderson, is a British subject, and, as such, he could no doubt be turned out, but I do not think it would be a wise move, as Sir R. Hart would only send some foreigner, who would, probably, be infinitely more difficult to deal with.

I would advise, therefore, that, if Government cannot induce China to withdraw her Customs officials altogether, the best course will be to accept the situation, but to ignore them officially as much as possible.

Inclosure 3 in No. 15.

*Mr. White to Government of India.*

*January 5, 1905.*

I HAVE just heard from Henderson, who says he is coming down to Calcutta to meet the special Chinese Commissioner, and expects to be here the middle of this month.

No. 16.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received February 16.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in letters from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 19th and 26th January, relative to Tibet affairs.

Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

*India Office, February 14, 1905.*



## Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Gyantse, January 13, 1905.*

YUTOK SHAPE called this morning bringing letters and presents from Ti-Rimpoche to Foreign Secretary and myself, and letters to me from National Assembly. Letter to Foreign Secretary asks him to thank Viceroy for his clemency in reducing indemnity and terms of occupation of Chumbi, and requests him to present to Viceroy image of Buddha as token of good-will, and expresses hope of long-continued friendship between England and Tibet. Shape begins by saying greatest satisfaction was felt at Lhasa on hearing of reduction of terms of Treaty, and communications to Viceroy, Foreign Secretary, and myself were read aloud in the Council and National Assembly. I then broached subject of visit of Thibetan delegates to Calcutta. Shape replied that he would communicate my remarks to Lhasa and inform me of reply of Lhasa Government on receipt. Several other matters of minor importance were discussed. Attitude of Shape most friendly, and gratitude for reduction of indemnity, &c., as expressed by him and by Ti-Rimpoche and National Assembly in their letters, appears very sincere. Full report of interview and translation of letters follow by post. I return Shape's call to-morrow.

Addressed to Foreign; repeated to White.

## Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

*Letter from the Nepalese Representative at Lhasa.*

(Extract.)

(Translation.)

*7th Kartic, Sambat 1961 (October 22, 1904).*

WITH due respect I beg to lay before your Highness in the following lines the news that I have heard and been able to gather here for your Highness' information.

I beg to submit inclosed herein copies of two Thibetan papers brought to me by a Chinese clerk with the following remarks:—

"With reference to the Proclamation stuck up at various places in the city of Lhasa announcing the dismissal of the Potala Lama for the time being, the Kazies, having called at the Yamun, were told by the Amban that it was due to such and such acts of the Potala Lama that the Proclamation had to be issued, and he explained to them the grounds as set forth in the said Proclamation. As the Kazies had then returned without saying either yea or nay in reply to the Amban, but simply respectfully nodding their heads when he spoke to them, and as some of the principal monks of the three monasteries began to express their irritation or excitement in words, saying that neither could there ever be more than one Potala Lama, nor has he, in any age or generation, been ever dismissed or dethroned as was being done now, the Amban sent his Litangay to the Kasyal to say that he had to issue such Proclamation simply for the purpose of sending back the British, whose officers appeared to force a demand for a visit with the Potala Lama, and that now since they have gone away he would, in due time, devise some means to have him reinstated by sending a representation to His Majesty the Emperor of China. To this the Kasyal had sent back a reply to the effect that they one and all had been very much aggrieved in the matter, and that the Amban should, after having taken suitable or proper steps, kindly furnish them with detailed informations. I have brought with me here a copy of the communication addressed by the Amban to the Chongdui Council and the Kasyal on the subject. In it, as there was a reference to the effect that the Thibetan Government and the Chongdui Council had, as it were, acquiesced in the statements made in the Proclamation, the Thibetans state that, when the Amban told them that it was because of the Potala Lama's having acted in such and such a way that the Proclamation had to be issued, they, out of regard for the Amban, could not contradict him, but were obliged to say simply 'yes, yes,' and return, and that none of them have ever agreed or given their consent to the dethronement or dismissal of the Potala Lama. Some of the monk members of the Chongdui Council went so far as to say to the Kasyal that, as the present Amban has been doing things such as had never been done before, and has also deviated from the rules of the old customs and procedure, the Thibetans might as well do the same, and so the Thibet Government might discard with the usage of



referring matters to the Amban for his approval and sanction, and stop payment of the amount which they had been paying to the Ambans. The Kazies, however, counselled patience to them, saying that such a course would make matters still worse for them, and that they should act properly and in a cautious manner. Accordingly the Kasyal and the Chongdui Council have sent a reply to the Amban's communication referred to above, which was dated the 23rd day of the 8th month of the 30th year of the reign of Emperor Kwangsew. Though I could not get an opportunity to take a copy of it, I have put down notes of it without omitting any important facts as far as my memory could help me, and have brought the same to you."

On Wednesday, the 27th Ashwin, I went to Maru Gumba to see the Thiring Pochi Lama with a view to inquire of him the current news. He at first inquired after my health, to which I replied that by the glory of my Maharajah and his (the said Lama's) blessings I was quite well. He then went on to say that, with reference to the Anglo-Tibetan dispute, by the mercy of God and favours of friends, the matter has been put down without the occurrence of any disturbance in the city of Lhasa, and it was hoped or there were signs that things would henceforward go on smoothly; that as regards certain points or matters which required mending, should the British remain obdurate in spite of all their efforts, he was inclined to entertain a hope that he, accompanied by the principal Bharadars of Thibet, would proceed to Nepal ostensibly on pilgrimage, and, after laying all their grievances or difficulties before your Highness and obtaining your Highness' advice for the future good of Thibet, would even go towards Calcutta should your Highness so advise them, with a view to settle matters in a way which would eliminate all sources of mischief or injury happening to Thibet, and maintain a course which would keep the religion or the religious sentiments of the people intact; that the difficulty lay in the Potala Lama being of tender age, whose misguided action in going further away from Nakchewkha at the instigation of irresponsible persons, in spite of the earnest entreaties from everybody else, showed that he was intent on going to the Jhijhundampa Lama of Kharka, and if he had been continually going on his journey he should have reached that place; that now, should he proceed from Kharka towards China to present himself before His Majesty the Emperor of China, and lay before him all the facts of his case, and thence return here to carry on his regal business for the good and protection or safety of the people, no objection could in any way be raised to this procedure, as China had all along been obeyed by Thibet, and had also been visited in former times (by the Potala Lamas), and nothing but good would result to him, and it would give them (the Tibetans) rest and contentment, or failing this it would do as well if he would send a Petition to His Majesty from where he is, and return here from the place, but should he, following neither of these courses, and, on account of his having concluded a Treaty of alliance with Russia, go to that country, he would shut his own way for his return here; on the other hand, even taken for granted that he succeeds in bringing the Russian troops with him, the British, being nearer of the two, will be the first to occupy the place, and if a struggle ensue between these two Powers, it will simply reduce the country into nothing, besides, the bringing about of such a consummation was not at all compatible with the functions of the lamas; that, in the first place, the Potala Lama should not have left the capital and gone elsewhere, as nobody would have done any harm to him; on the other hand, his stay here and his negotiation with the British would have resulted in a good settlement, in which case, had the British questioned the reason why he sought an alliance with Russia, he could have replied that he was compelled to take that course on account of the British having done such and such things without rhyme or reason, so that if they kept within their own bounds Thibet too would not make any such alliance with Russia, and the latter might have been informed that though a Treaty had been concluded with her, as she could not afford help to the Thibetans in such emergencies and the British had come upon them, such and such a Treaty has been made with the British, in consequence of which henceforward no communication would be kept up with her even in writing, and this information would have been quite enough to gag her; that even though he succeeded by his misguided action to bring some Russian, the fact of our having concluded and signed a Treaty with the British would oblige us to give an intimation of the same to them; and that as a matter of course they (the Thiring Pochi Lama and others) were addressing a Petition to the Potala Lama requesting him to refrain from following any such disturbing policy, and stating that if he would come back it would be to the good of all, and were sending that Petition by the hands of some of their men, but whether he could be induced to listen to the words of the men sent



or to the words put down in the Petition was a question which was causing him (the Thiring Pochi Lama) grave anxiety.

The lama replied that of course he did the best he could, but as he was, in the first place, quite ignorant of the ways and manners of the British officers, we (I and others) had done a good service in bringing about a good understanding between the parties; that the men who were being sent to bring back the Potala Lama would start the next day; that it would be well if the Potala Lama, giving heed to their words, would either go to Peking or come back here, having dispatched a Petition to His Majesty the Emperor of China; and that, should he, instead of turning to China, think of seeking the friendship of Russia, in accordance with his written Agreement with her, it would never be to the interest of Thibet. I then told him that all what he had said was true, and that there could be no doubt that it would also never be to the interest of the Potala Lama should he, being induced by the words of men like the Khendechhega, follow an illusion and have any such concern with Russia. After that we had a discourse for some three or four hours on religious topics. The lama then expressing a wish to return, I thanked him for his kindness to take the trouble of his paying me a visit, and took leave of him at the main entrance of my residence.

As the Thiring Pochi Lama has been acting as Regent on the night of the 6th Kartic, Friday, 1, accompanied by the said Ditha Iman Dhoje, went to him with the customary Dasain presents, consisting of sweets, spices, &c.

The lama replied as follows:—

“With regard to the Proclamation stuck up by the Amban announcing that by an Order of His Majesty the Emperor of China the Potala Lama has been for the time being dethroned or dismissed, and so forth, the Amban had sent a communication which purported to show that we had also acquiesced in it, in reply to which we sent a Wangsew (Memorandum) to the Amban to such and such effect. (Here he gave the purport of the Memorandum referred to above, and of which, as stated above, a copy in Thibetan is inclosed herein.) The Amban thereupon sent his Khajanchi (Treasurer), Talay, and Litangay to the Kasyal to say that, with reference to the conclusion of the Treaty between the British and the Thibetans, according to instructions received from His Majesty the Emperor of China, negotiation with the British on the subject from the Chinese side has been reserved, and in consequence the Amban was going to send a representation to His Majesty on the matter, and when a reply to it would come, necessary negotiation would be carried on from the Chinese side with the British and a settlement arrived at; that when that would be finished the Amban would move for the reinstatement of the Potala Lama by petitioning His Majesty the Emperor of China; and, in the meantime, the Amban wished that all the Thibetan Government employés, high and low, should carry on the State duties properly. The Kazies are, however, under the apprehension that if they do not eagerly move in this matter regarding the Potala Lama, and all the disturbing questions be not settled in his favour by urging on the Amban, when the Potala Lama comes back, he would bring on ruin to them, on the ground that they, while in power, had been quite careless or indifferent about him. They therefore came to me to say that, if things were to come off as indicated by the Amban in his above message, it appeared that the question with regard to the Potala Lama would be taken in hand very late, the consequences of which would be that the existing confusion or disturbing elements would continue to exist, much to the detriment of the interest of all the people here, and that under the circumstances the Kazies wanted my advice about sending a Memorandum addressed by all the Councillors and temporal monks to the Amban on the subject, urging him to move on the matter without further delay, and soon remove all confusion by sending a representation at once to His Majesty the Emperor of China in a manner as he might think best. I told them that they might urge on the matter to the Amban, but advised them that the communication to him should be polite and courteous and free from any harsh language. Now, at a time when matters have been smoothed down so far, any harsh measures on our part such as would bring on a disturbance with also the Chinese, being a thing which would tell against the interests of our own country, it is incumbent on us all to apply soft measures with the Amban, and it is also the bounden duty of us all here to safeguard as far as possible the interests of the Potala Lama. But the Potala Lama is now away towards Kharka, having left this place in spite of the protestations of us all. He ought to be able to rectify his own mistake by writing the needful to His Majesty the Emperor of China. Any stress which we people down here may lay on the matter may not have the desired effect.”



## No. 17.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 24.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, February 20, 1905.*

AGREEMENT for the adhesion of China to the Thibetan Agreement.

Please refer to Viceroy of India's telegram of the 16th instant.

You should inform Chinese Government that Mr. Wilton has been appointed Assistant Commissioner for the negotiations.

## No. 18.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received February 27.)*

Sir,

*India Office, February 25, 1905.*

WITH reference to your letter of the 1st instant, forwarding His Majesty's Commission appointing Mr. Fraser Special Commissioner for the negotiations at Calcutta to secure the adhesion of China to the Anglo-Thibetan Agreement, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to inclose, to be laid before the Marquess of Lansdowne, copy of a Secret letter from the Government of India on the subject of the negotiations.

The draft of the Agreement now forwarded differs, as is stated by the Government of India, in form only from that which was approved in Mr. Campbell's letter of the 1st September, 1904; and Mr. Brodrick proposes, subject to any observations which Lord Lansdowne may wish to make, to approve it with a view to its use, if necessary, in the manner suggested in the fourth paragraph of the Government of India's letter.

As regards the proposal in the fifth paragraph, that the Agreement should be signed, not by the Viceroy, but by the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, Mr. Brodrick would be glad, should Lord Lansdowne see no objection, if the necessary steps could be taken to enable the necessary Powers for the signature of the Agreement to be dispatched when the necessity for them arises, and when it is known who will be holding the appointment of Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) A. GODLEY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 18.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

Sir,

*Fort William, December 29, 1904.*

WE have the honour to forward twelve copies of the text of a proposed draft Convention with China on the subject of Thibet.

2. In July last we submitted to you a draft form of Agreement, which had been drawn up on the supposition that the Chinese Resident at Lhasa would ultimately, when the time for signature came, become a formal party to the Anglo-Thibetan Agreement finally concluded on the 7th September last, in the negotiation of which he had throughout participated.

3. Now, however, that a Chinese Commissioner is to be specially deputed to Calcutta to negotiate afresh on the subject of our arrangements with Thibet, the form of Agreement already sanctioned might well, we think, be modified in a manner which would adapt it better to the altered conditions. We have, therefore, caused to be prepared a new draft, couched in the terms which are customary in the case of a Convention between independent Powers, and which are largely based on the Anglo-Chinese Convention of 1890, to which the Anglo-Thibetan Convention of the 7th September, 1904, is stated in its preamble to be supplementary. It will be observed that the Declaration appended to the Convention of the 7th September is embodied in the new draft; and attention is also drawn to the fact that no reference is made in the draft to the participation of China in the negotiation of the proposed new Trade Regulations. We consider that this latter question should be treated as a matter of frontier arrangements between Thibet and India, and that it should be left over for direct discussion between Representatives of the Governments of India and Thibet



Should the Thibetan Government depute some Representative to Calcutta to receive the ratification of his Excellency the Viceroy, the opportunity might be utilized to come to a settlement on the subject. On the other hand, should the invitation be refused, the British Trade Agent might be authorized to arrange a settlement with Thibetan Representatives at Gyantse.

4. It is not intended that the new draft, which differs from the previous one only in form, should be put forward at the outset of the negotiations for acceptance by the Chinese Commissioner, as it would be advisable, in our opinion, to leave the initiative in making proposals entirely to him. Circumstances may, however, arise in which something might be gained by the British Representative being ready with a draft which already had the approval of His Majesty's Government; we shall, therefore, be glad to learn the views of His Majesty's Government on the subject by telegraph at their earliest convenience.

5. The present form of instrument will, of course, render it necessary to provide the British Commissioner with full powers to sign on behalf of His Majesty the King. If the precedent of the Convention of 1890 is followed, full powers for the conclusion of the Agreement would be given to his Excellency the Viceroy. But we are of opinion that Tang Ta-jên, the Chinese Representative who as a Taotai only ranks with a Consul or Vice-Consul in charge by the Treaty of Tien-tsin, should not, even if now appointed an Imperial Chinese Commissioner, be placed on an equality with his Excellency, and that it would be more fitting that the instrument should be signed by the Secretary for the time being in our Foreign Department. In view, however, of the uncertainty that exists at present as to who the incumbent of the post of Secretary will be by the time the Convention is ready for signature, we are inclined to think that the full powers should not be dispatched to India until the necessity for them arises. We submit, however, that there is no reason why their preparation might not be immediately taken in hand, so that they could be sent as soon as all necessary details can be filled in.

6. The Chinese Government have presumably already been informed, in compliance with the suggestion made by his Excellency Lord Ampthill on the 21st November, that the Chinese Commissioner will be received by the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, to whom the conduct of the negotiations on the British side will be intrusted under the supervision of his Excellency the Viceroy. Application was made to you by telegram on the 24th December, 1904, for the dispatch of a Royal Commission, conferring on Mr. Fraser, the present Officiating Secretary, the status of a Special Commissioner.

7. A copy of this despatch has been sent to His Majesty's Minister at Peking.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

CURZON.  
KITCHENER.  
E. F. G. LAW.  
E. R. ELLES.  
A. T. ARUNDEL.  
DENZIL IBBETSON.  
H. ERLE RICHARDS.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 18.

*Draft Convention with China.*

✓ WHEREAS His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India, and His Majesty the Emperor of China are sincerely desirous to maintain and perpetuate the relations of friendship and good understanding which now exist between their respective Empires;

And whereas a Convention relating to certain matters connected with the boundary between Sikkim and Thibet was signed at Calcutta on the 17th day of March, 1890, on behalf of Her late Majesty, the Predecessor of happy memory of the King of Great Britain and Ireland on the one side, and His Majesty the Emperor of China on the other side, and certain Regulations regarding trade, communication, and pasturage to be appended to the said Convention were signed at Darjeeling on the 5th day of December, 1893, by Joint Commissioners appointed by the British Government in India and the



Chinese Resident in Thibet respectively in accordance with Article VII of the said Convention ;

And whereas the Thibetan Government, contrary to the wishes and instruction of the Chinese Government, had declined to recognize the validity of, or to carry into full effect the provisions of, the said Convention and Regulations, and had thereby entailed on the British Government the necessity of taking active measures to secure their rights and interests under the said documents ;

And whereas a Convention of ten Articles was signed at Lhasa on the 7th day of September, 1904, on behalf of the Governments of Great Britain and Thibet respectively for the restoration of peace and amicable relations, and for the confirmation, further elucidation, and fuller execution of the said Convention of 1890 ;

And whereas the said Convention of the 7th day of September, 1904, was ratified by the Viceroy and Governor-General of India at Simla on the 11th day of November, 1904 ;

And whereas after such ratification a Declaration was signed on the same day by the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, directing, as an act of grace to the Thibetan Government, the modification, subject to certain conditions, of certain of the terms of the said Convention, which Declaration has been appended to the said Convention as so ratified ;

His Britannic Majesty and His Majesty the Emperor of China have resolved to conclude a Convention on this subject, and have, for this purpose named Plenipotentiaries, that is to say :—

His Majesty the King of Great Britain and Ireland

and His Majesty the Emperor of China,

who having communicated to each other their respective full powers, and finding them to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Convention in three Articles :—

#### ARTICLE I.

The Convention signed on the 7th day of September, 1904, on behalf of the Governments of Great Britain and Thibet, and the text of which, in English, Chinese, and Thibetan, is attached to the present Convention as an Annexe, is hereby confirmed, subject to the modification granted in the Declaration appended thereto, and both the High Contracting Parties engage to take at all times such steps as may be necessary to secure the due fulfilment of the terms specified therein.

#### ARTICLE II.

The English and Chinese texts of the present Convention have been carefully compared ; but in the event of there being any difference of meaning between them, the sense as expressed in the English text shall be held to be the correct sense.

#### ARTICLE III.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged within                      after the date of the signature thereof.

In token whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed and sealed this Convention—two copies in English and two in Chinese.

#### *Annexe.*

Convention between Great Britain and Thibet signed at Lhasa on the 7th September, 1904.

Declaration signed by his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India and appended to the ratified Convention of the 7th September, 1904.



No. 19.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received March 8.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in letters from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 2nd, 9th, and 16th ultimo, relative to Thibet affairs.

Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

*India Office, March 7, 1905.*

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Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

*Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw to the Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Camp, viâ Segowlie, January 12, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, news obtained from some travellers from Thibet, who have lately arrived in Nepal.

2. No confirmation of this news, which is probably based on mere rumour, has been received from the Nepal representative in Lhasa, nor has the Prime Minister received any intimation of any Chinese coming to Kerung or Nepal.

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*Translation of Information submitted by the Man engaged in watching the Movements of Thibetan Travellers here in Nepal.*

A THIBETAN, named Losang Migeur, of the Dhaibung Monastery at Lhasa, with one other Thibetan, has come here by the Kuti route. In answer to the queries put to him, he said that, orders having been issued by the Kasyal office to collect and keep ready three lakhs of men who are above 18 and below 60 years of age from among the whole of the Thibetan subjects, the work of collecting or enrolling the men is going on at present; that, while he was at Lhasa, he heard of the arrival of the Potala Lama in China; that the Khembu Lama, of the Dhaibung Monastery, informed his preceptor, and from him he has learnt that the Potala Lama would return to Lhasa in the month of Asharh or Sravan (June or July) next, accompanied by Russian and Mongolian troops, and a letter has been received from the said Potala Lama from China, giving instructions to keep the Thibetan troops ready; and that besides these he knew nothing more, and intended to return by the same route in seven or eight days.

A Thibetan, named Samten, of the Monastery at Jhunga, who has come to Bandha, accompanied by one other Thibetan, says that there was a report of three British officers, with forty or fifty sepoy, having gone towards Ladak rounding the Mansarober Lake; that an order was recently received by the Dheba (a Thibetan local official) of Jhunga, informing the arrival of some forty or fifty troops of some Chinese high officer, and directing to prepare quarters for them; that he heard that they would arrive at Kerung on the next full-moon day, and might also proceed on to Nepal to pay a visit to your Highness; that he knew nothing more, and would return by the Kerung route in nine or ten days.

Dated the 14th Pous, Wednesday, 1961, corresponding with the 28th December, 1904.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

*Messrs. Jardine, Skinner, and Co. to Government of India.*

*Calcutta, January 9, 1905.*

OUR friends at Shanghae, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co., under date the 3rd December, 1904, write us as follows:—

“This serves to introduce to you Mr. Chow Cheang Feng, a Chinese official, who goes to your port by the ‘Kumsang’ in connection with the Thibetan Treaty recently



concluded. He, we understand, intends proceeding viâ Darjeeling, and any assistance you can render him will be much appreciated."

Mr. Chow Cheang Feng tells us that there is some difficulty at present in proceeding to Yatung without a passport, so we shall be much obliged if you can see your way to grant him same as early as possible, as he intends leaving for that place next week.

Mr. Feng is a Sub-Prefect of the Province of Szechuan, China, and has been appointed to Yatung as Chinese frontier officer.

Thanking you in anticipation for any assistance you may be able to afford.

Inclosure 3 in No. 19.

*Government of India to Resident, Nepal.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, January 21, 1905.*

JAPANESE priest, Ekai Kawaguchi, has arrived Calcutta with letter from British Minister, Tôkiô. He proposes to proceed Nepal to present to Prime Minister and Commander-in-chief gifts of ancient Japanese swords and Japanese Buddhist Scriptures. Are the Durbar prepared to receive him?

Inclosure 4 in No. 19.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Gyantse, January 12, 1905.*

IN reply to your Confidential letter, dated the 3rd instant, on the subject of the proposed visit to Thibet of the Japanese priest, Kawaguchi Ekai, I beg to express my opinion on the matter as follows:—

There would, I think, be no objection to Mr. Kawaguchi coming as far as Gyantse, and residing here for a limited period (say three months), during which he would have opportunities of making the acquaintance of Thibetan officials and men of position, through whom he could make a request to the Lhasa Government to be allowed to proceed to Lhasa or elsewhere in Thibet, where he wishes to study Buddhism.

If the Lhasa authorities should accede to his request, there seems to be no reason why we should place obstacles in his way. If, on the other hand, they should refuse it, we are not called upon to offer him any further assistance. Similarly, with regard to his residence at Gyantse, the continuation of his stay here after three months might be made to depend upon the permission of the Lhasa authorities. This would make Mr. Kawaguchi's success or failure depend upon his own influence with the Thibetans, and we, whilst offering him all assistance in our power, would in no way transgress the limits imposed by the new Treaty.

No. 20.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, March 9, 1905.*

I LAID before the Marquess of Lansdowne your letter of the 25th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a despatch from the Government of India relative to the negotiations at Calcutta for securing the adhesion of China to the Anglo-Thibetan Convention of the 7th September, 1904.

I am to say that Lord Lansdowne sees no objection to the terms of the draft Convention with China forwarded in the Government of India's letter.

As a matter of form, however, it would appear sufficient in paragraph 2 to describe the late Queen as Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, omitting the words "the predecessor, of happy memory, of the King of Great Britain and Ireland."

With reference to the last paragraph in your letter, I am to state, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, that, as soon as the name of the official is



known who will sign the Convention on behalf of His Majesty the King, it can at once be inserted in the form prescribed for conferring the necessary full powers, which will then be submitted for His Majesty's signature.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

No. 21.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received March 23.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in letters from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 23rd February and the 2nd March, relative to Thibet Affairs.

Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

*India Office, March 22, 1905.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

*Gyantse, February 1, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I received a letter yesterday (31st January) from the Tashi Lama at Shigatse, in which he formally thanks his Excellency the Viceroy for his clemency in reducing the terms of the Treaty, and with which he sends, for the acceptance of his Excellency, a present consisting of a silk scarf, a gilt copper image, a roll of silk, and some woollen cloths. He says also that he would write to his Excellency himself to thank him, but that he "hesitates to do so," no doubt from fear of raising the suspicions of the Lhasa Government.

2. I am sending by post the roll of silk and the image, as requested by the Lama, addressed to Foreign Department. The woollen cloths are scarcely worth the cost of their carriage, but will be sent afterwards, if desired. The silk scarf is inclosed herewith.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

*Government of India to Captain O'Connor.\**

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, February 6, 1905.*

TANG SHAO YI left Hong Kong for Calcutta per "Suisang" between the 31st January and 2nd February. Date of arrival Calcutta not yet known.

Inclosure 3 in No. 21.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

*Gyantse, January 14, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith an account of an interview with the senior of the four Thibetan Sha-pes or Ministers, Yutok, held here yesterday, 13th January. Might I ask that a copy of this letter be sent to T. C. White, Esq., C.I.E., from the Foreign Department?

2. The Yutok Sha-pe reached Gyantse about noon on the 11th January, and sent up one of his Secretaries to call upon me the same afternoon to arrange a day and time for the Sha-pe to call. Twelve noon on the 13th was the time fixed, and the Sha-pe and his retinue rode up here at the appointed hour from the Gyantse Gour-pa, or Monastery, where he has taken up his quarters. I received him in a tent pitched in

\* Also to Mr. E. C. Wilton.



the courtyard adjoining the house we are occupying here, there being no suitable room in the house itself for such a ceremony. Captain Steen, Indian Medical Service, and two Native officers of the 40th Pathans escort were present at the interview. The Sha-pe was accompanied by his Secretary, his son who holds a minor office under the Lhasa Government, and half-a-dozen monks, three of whom represented the three great Lhasa monasteries.

3. After the usual compliments and inquiries, I began by informing the Sha-pe that I had received a telegram from Captain Rawling two days before to inform me that the Gartok party had arrived safely at Simla, and asking me to thank the Lhasa Government for the excellence of their arrangements and for the assistance afforded to the travellers throughout their journey.

The Sha-pe expressed himself very pleased at hearing of the safety of the party, and promised to convey Captain Rawling's message to Lhasa.

4. Some presents were then brought in consisting of:—

(a.) A roll of silk; a parcel of woollen cloth; a box, containing an image of Buddha, from the Ti-Rimpoche, to the Foreign Secretary, the latter being intended for presentation to the Viceroy.

(b.) Two rolls of silk; some woollen cloth; a silver shoe; a bag containing 1,080 tangas; 360 rupees, from the Ti-Rimpoche, Yutok Sha-pe, and the other Delegates, to me.

5. The Sha-pe then made a little speech, to say that he had been selected by the Thibetan Government to proceed to Gyantse as a sort of Special Commissioner to inquire into the condition of the surrounding peasantry, and to arrange with me any questions which might crop up. He brought me very friendly messages from the Ti-Rimpoche, the other Sha-pes, and various members of the Lhasa Government, who were all good enough to say that it was a great satisfaction to them to know that I had been appointed British Trade Agent at Gyantse, as they felt sure I was in sympathy with the Thibetans, and would do my best to befriend them and make the friendship now begun between the two countries a real and lasting one. Referring to the reduction in the terms of the Treaty, he said that my letters, with translation of the Viceroy's declaration, and of the Foreign Secretary's letter, had reached Lhasa just before he started, and that the contents of these communications had afforded the highest satisfaction, and that the Ti-Rimpoche had had them all read aloud both in the Council and in the National Assembly.

He begged me to convey the thanks of the Ti-Rimpoche, and of all the officers of the Thibetan Government, to the Viceroy and the Foreign Secretary, and he handed me three letters—one for the Foreign Secretary from the Ti-Rimpoche, and two addressed to me from the Ti-Rimpoche and the National Assembly, translations of which are attached.

He made no reference to the Viceroy's invitation to Thibetan Delegates to visit Calcutta.

6. I replied that I was delighted to hear that the clemency of the Indian Government had met with so high an appreciation at Lhasa; but I reminded him that, before we could regard the relations between the two countries as being entirely satisfactory, it would be necessary to agree upon various Regulations for the conduct of trade between India and Thibet, and that his Excellency the Viceroy hoped to be able to take advantage of the presence of Thibetan Delegates in Calcutta to arrange this important matter to the satisfaction of both parties concerned.

I called his attention to the fact that, until this was done, the Thibetans would be unable to reap the full benefit which should accrue to them from the Treaty, as until a tariff was mutually agreed upon, they were not in a position to levy customs dues of any kind, so obviously the sooner the tariff was fixed the better it would be for them, and I repeated to him the cordial invitation of the Viceroy for a representative selection of high officials to visit Calcutta, promising them, in the name of his Excellency, a hospitable reception, and pointing out to him how much they would benefit by visiting Calcutta, and by making the personal acquaintance of Lord Curzon.

7. The Sha-pe listened very attentively to what I had to say, and replied that he would at once refer the matter to Lhasa for written instructions. I begged him to lose no time in doing so, as the Indian Government would move their head-quarters to Simla in the spring.

8. The Sha-pe then said that he had heard that we were building a new house in the Chumbi Valley, and asked that this might not be done. I said I was not aware whether or no a new house was being built, but would make inquiries and let him know



the result. He then referred to Phari Fort, which, he said, was much dilapidated, and he asked that no further damage should be done, and that the Jongpens should be allowed to reoccupy their former quarters. I promised to refer this matter also for orders.

9. I then broached the question of the construction of a cart-road between Gyantse and Kangma. The Sha-pe seemed rather alarmed at the mention of carts, but said that, in accordance with the terms of the Treaty, there would be no objection to the road being improved and made fit for traffic, which is all that we require.

Referring to the breakages in the telegraph wire, in which matter I requested his assistance, he said that perhaps this damage was done by the extreme cold. But when I pointed out that the cold could not remove lengths of wire bodily, he promised to issue the strictest orders on the subject, but said that it was difficult to control irresponsible persons travelling up and down the line.

10. He then took his leave, after informing me that he had received a notification recently from the Amban to the effect that the Chinese Emperor had approved of his appointment, and so he was now confirmed as Sha-pe, having hitherto been only on probation.

11. I paid a return visit to the Sha-pe this morning. He is lodged in the Abbot's house in the big monastery, and has renounced his intention of proceeding to Dongtse as at first proposed. He received me, with Captain Steen and a Native officer, Jemadar Galistan, in a very friendly way, and I presented him with a rifle and 800 rupees, in return for his presents of the day before. We partook of tea and some Thibetan dishes, and conversed on general topics. No question of interest was raised, and we took our departure, after inviting the Sha-pe and his suite to see a game of polo, and partake of tiffin with us on Tuesday, the 17th instant.

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Inclosure 4 in No. 21.

*The Ti Rimpoche to Government of India.*

✓✓ (Translation.)

*Gyantse, January 14, 1905.*

To the great Minister of the great Indian Viceroy,

I RECEIVED recently from Captain O'Connor at Gyantse a communication to inform me that with reference to the 6th clause of the Treaty, the indemnity of 75 lakhs of rupees had been reduced by 50 lakhs, and that only 25 lakhs would have to be paid, and, moreover, that if during three years the indemnity of 1 lakh per year were duly paid and the trade marts were duly opened in accordance with the 2nd and 7th clauses of the Treaty, and all the other provisions of the Treaty were duly observed, then the Chumbi Valley would be restored to us after three years; and that a declaration to this effect has been inscribed upon the original Treaty.

An autograph letter from the Viceroy, Lord Ampthill, with its Thibetan translation, also a letter to the same effect from the great Minister of the Viceroy (the Foreign Secretary), and its Thibetan translation have likewise been received.

The Great Viceroy of India having taken into consideration the material condition of Thibet, and having remitted two-thirds of the indemnity, and having promised to restore the Chumbi Valley to us in three years, we are exceedingly rejoiced. The two parties have now commenced friendly relations, and we hope that for the future they will be firmly established, and that the Viceroy will vouchsafe his aid in making this friendship last for a very long time, to the benefit of the Thibetans.

As a token of thanks to the Viceroy, Lord Ampthill, I am sending a scarf and a clothed image made of copper gilt, which I beg of you to offer to his Excellency. In this letter, too, in accordance with our Thibetan customs, I inclose a scarf, and I also send for your acceptance a roll of silk, and three rolls of spotted woollen cloth, and one plain white.

Dated the 29th day of the 11th month (4th January, 1905).

(Seal of the Council of Four.)

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## Inclosure 5 in No. 21.

*The Ga-den Ti Rimpoche to Captain O'Connor.*

(Translation.)

To the Saheb Captain O'Connor,

Gyantse, January 14, 1905.

I HAVE recently received from you a communication to say that the Great Viceroy of India has been pleased to ratify the Treaty, and moreover, in reference to the 6th clause that the indemnity of 75 lakhs has been reduced to 25 lakhs of rupees, and that if the indemnity is duly paid for three years the British will restore the Chumbi Valley after three years; and that a declaration to this effect has been inscribed upon the original of the Treaty. I have received also a letter in English with the Viceroy's signature upon it, and a letter in English from the Foreign Secretary, and the Thibetan translations of both documents, and also two letters from yourself. We are grateful for the consideration shown to us in regarding the indemnity as too heavy a burden for the Thibetans to bear, and this fact was evidently realized by the Sahibs after seeing our country. So the Great Viceroy of India too understanding this, has now reduced the indemnity by two-thirds, and has promised to restore the Chumbi Valley to us after three years; we are, therefore, very much pleased in our hearts.

I had the letters announcing these concessions read aloud in the Council and Assembly, and all were much rejoiced at the news, and the Assembly have written you a letter. In future also we rely upon you for the long continuance of the friendship now begun between the two countries.

We send very many thanks in especial for the return to us after three years of the Chumbi Valley, but we hear that the British Government are building houses in Chumbi, concerning which there is nothing in the Treaty. If this is true, as Chumbi is a small and mountainous district, the peasants, who pay taxes (to the Lhasa Government) for their land, will suffer loss, so we beg you to arrange that this shall not be done.

Kindly forward to the great Minister of the Viceroy the letter and presents sent herewith. I send also a presentation scarf, some woollen cloths, and a roll of silk.

Dated the 29th day of the 11th month (4th January, 1905).

(Seal of the Council of Four.)

## Inclosure 6 in No. 21.

*The National Assembly at Lhasa to Captain O'Connor.*

(Translation.)

To the Saheb Captain O'Connor,

Gyantse, January 14, 1905.

THE Ti Rimpoche recently received a communication from you to the effect that the Viceroy of India had been pleased to ratify the Treaty between India and Thibet; and that, with reference to clause 6, the indemnity has been reduced from 75 lakhs to 25 lakhs of rupees, 50 lakhs of rupees being remitted; and that if the indemnity were duly paid for three years, the Chumbi Valley would be given back to us; and that this declaration has been inscribed upon the original Treaty. A letter from the Foreign Secretary too, and two letters from you were also received, and were all read aloud in the Assembly.

Clearly the Sahibs realized after their visit to Lhasa the size and resources of Thibet, and so represented the matter plainly to the Great Viceroy of India; and the Viceroy, graciously considering the matter, has reduced the indemnity as laid down in the 6th clause of the Treaty by two-thirds; and, moreover, has given orders that the Chumbi Valley shall be restored to us after three years.

We, the Members of the National Assembly, are rejoiced at heart and give thanks. But we have heard that both in Upper and in Lower Chumbi houses are being built regarding which there is no mention in the Treaty, so we beg of you to take this matter into consideration, in accordance with what the Ga-den Ti Rimpoche has said to you in his letter. The Yutok Sha-pe and representatives of the three monasteries have proceeded to Gyantse to inquire into the condition of the peasants.

You are well acquainted with the speech and letters both of the English and of the Thibetans, so again we beg of you to assist in arranging amicably any questions



arising between the two countries, and we have great hopes that in the future, as in the past, all matters will be satisfactorily settled. Pray bear this in mind.

From the General Assembly of the Thibetan Government.

Written upon a day and date.

(Sealed with the seals of the three great Monasteries and the "General Seal.")

Inclosure 7 in No. 21.

*Government of India to Mr. J. C. White.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, January 24, 1905.*

PENDING settlement of general question, all applications from European, British, or Chinese subjects, and from European or American foreigners, for permission to enter Chumbi or Thibet should be referred for orders, and no person of above classes should be allowed to cross the frontier without previous sanction of Government of India. This applies to case of Chow Cheang Feng.

Inclosure 8 in No. 21.

*Government of India to Sir E. Satow.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, January 24, 1905.*

A CHINESE official, named Chow Cheang Feng, who is described as Sub-Prefect of Szechuan, arrived by the vessel "Kumsang," and is said to have come on business connected with the Thibet Treaty. He is also said to have been appointed Chinese Frontier Officer at Yatung, and has applied for a passport to proceed there. Have you any information about him? Chinese officials should be able to show credentials when proceeding to Thibet via India.

Inclosure 9 in No. 21.

*Government of India to Government of Bengal.*

*Fort William, January 24, 1905.*

I AM directed to forward, for your information, a copy of a telegram which has this day been addressed to Mr. White, Political Officer at Sikkim, instructing him that no European British subject, no Chinese subject, and no other European or American foreigner should be permitted to cross the British frontier into Thibet.

2. I am to request that, with his Honour's permission, similar instructions may issue to the officers in charge of frontier districts under the Lieutenant-Governor.

3. With reference to Mr. Feng, mentioned in the telegram to Mr. White, I am to inclose, for the information of the Bengal Government, a copy of a letter\* from Messrs. Jardine, Skinner and Co.

Inclosure 10 in No. 21.

*Government of India to Messrs. Jardine, Skinner, and Co.*

*Fort William, January 26, 1905.*

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 9th January, 1905, in which you ask for a passport to enable Mr. Chow Cheang Feng to proceed to Yatung.

2. I am to request that Mr. Chow Cheang Feng will be good enough to furnish

\* Dated January 9, 1905.



this Department with further particulars as to the nature of his credentials from the Chinese Government, and as to his proposed route and destination. In view of the fact that he is described as having come to India both in connection with the Thibet Treaty and as Chinese Frontier Officer, it would be desirable that he should state definitely in what capacity he is proceeding to Thibet.

Inclosure 11 in No. 21.

*Sir E. Satow to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Peking, January 25, 1905.*

PLEASE refer to your telegram, dated the 24th January, 1905, regarding Chow Cheang Feng. I have no information regarding this person and cannot inquire, as I do not know what characters are used in writing his name.

I suggest that he should be told to telegraph to his Government to make an application through his Legation for a passport.

Inclosure 12 in No. 21.

*Government of India to Captain O'Connor.\**

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, February 8, 1905.*

PLEASE report by letter what is known of Chinese troops in Chumbi Valley, their numbers, disposition, and when and with what object they were first stationed in the valley.

Inclosure 13 in No. 21.

*Government of India to Mr. Bell.*

*Fort William, February 9, 1905.*

I AM directed to request that you will furnish, at an early date, a report on the Chinese troops in the Chumbi Valley, specifying their numbers and disposition, and when and with what object they were first stationed in the valley.

Inclosure 14 in No. 21.

*Government of Bengal to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Calcutta, January 25, 1905.*

IN continuation of the letter from this Office dated the 17th December, 1904, I am directed to submit the accompanying extract paragraphs 3 to 5 from a letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling, dated the 16th January, 1905, containing his frontier confidential report for the week ending the 14th January, 1905.

Inclosure 15 in No. 21.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.*

(Confidential.)

(Extract.)

*Camp Rississum, January 16, 1905.*

3. The trade between India and Thibet seems to be particularly brisk at present, large consignments of all kinds of Indian goods are passing daily into Thibet, and wool is being imported very freely. The export trade will, however, be considerably hampered

\* Also to Mr. J. C. White.



during the next month, during which the Teesta Valley road will be entirely closed under the orders of the Public Works Department. The price of wool in Kalimpong has touched a point it has never reached before, viz., rupees 26 : 8 per maund; the highest price hitherto realized was rupees 25 : 8. This high price will no doubt act as an incentive to the Thibetan traders to bring down every seer they can lay their hands upon, for it will bring them in a profit of 30 to 35 per cent.

4. It is reported that one of the Sha-pes, with a clerk, started from Lhasa on the 25th ultimo on a tour between that place and Gyantse with a view, first to repopulate those villages along the route which were deserted during the progress of the Mission, and, secondly, to arrange for halting-stages for officials on their way between the two places. No definite news as to the probable date of the return of the Dalai Lama to Lhasa has yet reached me.

5. Two lamas from the Phodrang Monastery in Sikkim have arrived in Darjeeling; they have been deputed by Kumar Srid-Kyong Tulku of Sikkim to come into this district, and try and collect subscriptions for the reconstruction of the monastery.

## No. 22.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received March 25.)*

(No. 53.)

My Lord,

*Peking, February 9, 1905.*

WITH reference to the despatch from His Majesty's Consul at Tengyueh No. 2 of the 11th April, 1904, copy of which was sent direct to your Lordship, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Consul-General at Chengtu respecting the American traveller Nichols.

Mr. Nichols is reported since to have died at Gyantse.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

## Inclosure in No. 22.

*Consul-General Hosie to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 32.)

Sir,

*Chengtu, December 26, 1904.*

I HAVE the honour to report that during my absence from Chengtu Mr. Wilkinson, His Majesty's Consul-General at Yünnan Fu, forwarded to me a copy of a Memorandum by Mr. Litton dated the 20th August, 1904, on the state of affairs in North-West Yünnan, and suggested that I should comment on it to you.

I have no doubt that Mr. Litton carefully sifted the information contained in the Memorandum, and that it is accurate; but, personally, I should hesitate to accept Mr. Nichols, the American, as a competent authority. Mr. Nichols, whom I have mentioned from time to time in despatches to the Legation, arrived in China a year ago with the avowed object of reaching Lhasa. He proceeded to Ta-chien-lu without passing through Chengtu, and on arrival there set to work to learn Thibetan. He studied for a month or two, when he made the acquaintance of a Chinese named Tsao, the brother of a former Commissary at Batang, now in retirement owing to mourning. Tsao, who had learned English in Shanghai and speaks fairly well, had previously crossed Thibet to India by way of Lhasa, and undertook to guide Mr. Nichols for a certain sum of money—500 taels, I have been told. On arrival at Pang-mu-t'ang, the place which I recently visited, situated a few miles on this side of the Thibetan frontier, the party was stopped and obliged to take the road to Yünnan. Foiled in his attempt, Mr. Nichols ultimately discarded everything foreign, dismissed his guide and servants, and entered a lamasery at Wei-hsi T'ing, where he now is, his aim, of course, being to endeavour to reach Lhasa later as a priest. I have not yet heard whether the arrival of the British Mission at Lhasa has altered his plans for the future. At any rate, Lhasa is no longer the *terra incognita* which it was his object to discover. Thibetan is a difficult language, and his knowledge of it must be exceedingly imperfect.



As regards the French, I exchanged visits at Ta-chien-lu with Mgr. Girardeau who expressed to me the hope that the result of the British Mission would be the opening up of Thibet to missionaries, an event for which they had been waiting so long.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALEX. HOSIE.

No. 23.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.*—(Received March 28.)

(No. 58. Secret.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, March 28, 1905.*

CONFIDENTIAL information has reached me to the effect that the Dalai Lama's desire to return to Thibet has been acceded to by the Chinese Government; they have, however, given orders that he is not to be allowed to proceed beyond Hsi-ning.

I had previously warned them that Great Britain would be compelled again to take action against him if he were allowed to return to Lhasa.

Troops which have been dispatched from Szechuan into the region lying westward from Tachien-lu are only going to suppress a local rising; they will proceed no further into Thibet.

(Repeated to India.)

No. 24.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 55.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, April 4, 1905.*

POSSIBLE return of Dalai Lama to Thibet, and warning to Chinese Government, reported in your telegram No. 58 of the 28th ultimo.

(Secret.)

Any language which might commit us to armed intervention in Thibet should be carefully avoided.

No. 25.

*India Office to Foreign Office*—(Received April 7.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in letters from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 9th and 16th ultimo, relative to Thibet affairs.

(Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.)

*India Office, April 5, 1905.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 25.

*Mr. C. A. Bell to Mr. J. C. White.*

(Extract.)

*Chumbi, February 7, 1905.*

*Dalai Lama.*—It is stated by two Agents of the Thibetan Government, who have lately come to Phari from Lhasa, that another party of officials will start soon now to bring the Dalai Lama back to Lhasa.



Inclosure 2 in No. 25.

*Mr. C. A. Bell to Mr. J. C. White.*

(Confidential.)

(Extract.)

*Chumbi, February 7, 1905.*

*Customs Duties at Phari.*—I have the honour to report, with reference to the levy of customs duties at Phari (referred to in paragraph 3 of my Frontier Confidential Report No. 5 and paragraph 1 of my Frontier Confidential Report No. 6), that during the course of my investigation into these taxes I wrote to the Jongpens at Phari to inquire from them what duties they were actually levying. In their reply they state that they have for the present removed all duties from the 28th January, the date on which they replied to my letter. The removal of the duties is evidently owing to my writing to them on the subject. Inquiries from traders who have passed through Phari since that date show that the duties have actually been taken off, as stated by the Jongpens.

Inclosure 3 in No. 25.

*Sir N. C. Conner*

*Sir E. Sataw to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Peking, March 24, 1894.*

OWING to the kindness of the Inspector-General of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs, I am enabled to inclose herewith, for your Excellency's confidential information, a copy of the instructions he has sent to the Commissioner of Customs at Yatung, which will be opened for trade, in accordance with the recent Convention, on the 1st May next.

I am not sufficiently acquainted with the subject to venture any observations upon this paper; but in acknowledging its receipt I made it more clearly understood to the Commissioners of Customs and others concerned that the trade in tea would be allowed after the expiration of five years.

Inclosure 4 in No. 25.

*Mr. Hart to Commissioner of Customs, Yatung.*

*Peking, March 17, 1894.*

A DESPATCH of to-day's date appoints you to Yatung as Commisrioner of Customs, and I now proceed to supplement its stereotyped instructions with such fuller explanations and directions as are necessary for your guidance or ought to be recorded at this date.

2. Yatung is opened to trade from the 1st May, or rather is made the mart at which trade is to be carried on, by the Treaty and Regulations signed by their Excellencies the Chinese Resident in Thibet and the Indian Viceroy and their deputies (*vide* Regulation I). British subjects are at liberty to travel freely between the frontier and Yatung, to reside at Yatung, and to rent go-downs and houses for their own accommodation and the storage of their goods; they sell their goods to whomsoever they please, purchase native commodities, hire transport, and conduct their business without any vexatious restrictions; and at Lang-jo and Tachun, between the frontier and Yatung, where rest-houses have been built by the Thibetan authorities, they can break their journey in consideration of a daily rent (*vide* Regulation II). Import and export trade in arms, ammunition, military stores, salt, liquors, and intoxicating or narcotic drugs, may, at the option of either Government, be entirely prohibited or permitted, only on such conditions as either Government on their side may think fit to impose (*vide* Regulation III); all other goods shall be exempt from duty for five years, but Indian tea is not to be traded in during that period (*vide* Regulation IV). All goods on arrival at Yatung, whether from British India or Thibet, must be reported at the Customs station there for examination, and the report must give full particulars of description, quantity, and value (*vide* Regulation V). From what precedes you will see that for five years to come the Yatung Customs will have no revenue to collect, but will simply examine goods inwards and outwards and provide trade statistics for record and publication. How best to do this and what regulations should be drawn up and published will be left to you on the spot to arrange, and in doing so you are to keep two points in view: you are, on the one hand, to do all you possibly can to foster, encourage, and develop trade, avoiding the introduction of any rule,



regulation, or practice that is either uncalled for or likely to restrict trade or harass traders; and, on the other hand, you are to remember that eventually duties will be collected, and that during this preliminary period of exemption that future must not be lost sight of, but must be prepared for by accustoming traders to respect Customs Regulations, report their goods properly, and submit to adequate examination. It is to be hoped that constant commercial intercourse on their own side of the frontier, initiated and conducted as now provided for, will quietly but surely disarm Thibetan suspicion and fear, and that, as the years roll by, objections to extended intercourse will decrease or disappear; but in the meantime, and more especially at the commencement, it must not be forgotten that the ordinary route from the frontier to Yatung via Lang-jo and Tachun is the route which British traders are expected to travel by, and that Yatung is the terminal point at which British traders are to stop, and beyond which they are not to penetrate Thibet. Any divergence from the route will call forth fresh suspicion, and any attempt to pass on beyond Yatung, or whatever point in Yatung is the real terminal point, will only delay, impede, and render impossible any future extension of the narrow limits to which Thibetan alarm is confining commercial intercourse to-day. As regards the articles which either Government may prohibit (Regulation III), you ought at once to let it be known what your rule is to be, *i.e.*, what it is that is prohibited and cannot enter Thibet, or on what conditions any of the articles enumerated will be allowed to pass in, and India, I presume, will do the same. Neither Government is at liberty to add to the prohibited list, but as the words in the Regulation describe kinds of goods, and do not specify articles, care must be taken to see that a prohibited article really belongs to the prohibited category.

3. India is free to send officers to reside at Yatung to control the conditions of British trade at that mart (*vide* Regulation I), and China undertakes to provide special and fitting residence for such officers, as also suitable buildings for the accommodation of British traders, &c. (*vide* Regulation II). It is hardly to be expected that the houses experimentally provided for the opening of the mart on the 1st May will be considered satisfactory, but we may hope for improvement after local acquaintanceship has made some advance and wants are felt, explained, and understood.

4. Trade disputes are to be settled in personal conference by the Sikkim Political Officer and the Chinese Frontier Officer, and the law of the defendant's country is to rule, (*vide* Regulation VI). When these two officers disagree, they are to report to their immediate superiors, and these to their respective Governments (*vide* General Article I). China has not yet designated any frontier officer, but he will probably be your colleague at Yatung; and while it will always be best to settle disputes out of Court, and before they can reach these officers, I have no doubt the Chinese frontier officer will in most cases ask for and follow your advice, to promote amicable settlement and do justice, and to prevent incidents from assuming the importance of questions ought to be always aimed at.

5. The Chinese frontier officer will be charged with the duty of receiving and forwarding despatches, &c., for and to the Indian Government and the Chinese Resident (*vide* Regulation VII). I presume his couriers will also be at your service for similar work.

6. As to your own residence and office, and examination shed, you will probably be very inadequately lodged at first, and it will be for yourself to secure improvement. You must aim at having what will insure health, comfort, and efficiency, both as regards site, buildings, and recreation ground; but it will be best to go slowly. Put up with discomfort for a while, and then gradually proceed to change things for the better, beginning first, for instance, with office and examination shed, and then advancing from alterations and improvements in the official places where public business is transacted to the introduction of ameliorations in what will be your private surroundings.

7. As for the other employés required for the works of the custom-house, I do not propose to send any to you for the present from China, except a Chinese clerk or two, and even these not unless specially requisitioned for by yourself. You have been authorized to employ as a writer a certain Chinese now on Kuei Ta-Jên's staff, and you have also been telegraphed to (on the 23rd February) to look out in India for what work at Yatung will want. Seeing that no revenue will be collected, and that no separate office allowance can be expected for some time to come, the expenditure must be kept down as much as possible, and you will accordingly study economy in every direction. You must be careful to see that the terms on which all such local employés are engaged are well defined and written out, and that our liabilities do not extend beyond either the day of discharge or the end of the month or quarter. To use a local expression, your staff will be of the uncovenanted variety.



8. Whatever stationery, &c., you require at first for your office, &c., you can provide locally. Later on experience will teach what is best, and either requisitions can be sent to the London Office and the Statistical Secretary, Shanghai, or you can continue to supply yourself in India. Meantime, the Statistical Secretary will be instructed to send you regularly all Customs publications as they appear, and also as many as possible of those already issued. Further, Canton will send you a Commissioner's seal and, perhaps, some stamps for examiners' use.

9. The moneys for the support of the Yatung establishment will be remitted to your official account as Commissioner of Chinese Customs at Yatung at the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, Calcutta. There will be no fixed rate—so many Haikwan taels remitted will produce so many rupees, according to the exchange of the day—and here, at head-quarters, we shall keep a record of the rate at which each remittance is made. Your accounts are to be rendered in rupees, and you are not to introduce taels, dollars, or sterling. Your own salary can be drawn by you at the rate you propose in your demi-official letter of the 18th January last, viz.,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  rupees = 1 Haikwan tael, so that monthly you will pay yourself 1,300 rupees (as in your own case being the fixed equivalent of 400 Haikwan taels). Your accounts are to be rendered quarterly, and I hope to have you supplied with forms, &c., English and Chinese, before the end of June, the June quarter 1894 will be the 135th Customs' quarter (Chinese characters).

10. The copy of Slater's Code, arranged in alphabetical groups for Customs' use, and also the Alphabetical Code for Chinese telegrams left with you by Mr. J. H. Hart, are to be retained by you for your use as Commissioner; they are both confidential, and must be kept safely, and not allowed to be handled by others. The "Slater" alphabetical groups are to be used only in telegrams for myself and the London Office. Should you ever have occasion to telegraph to any of the other Commissioners you can use the original "Slater," and when doing so it is the corresponding word in the other column on the same page that you are to employ, e.g., if you wish a Commissioner to understand that he is to read "habitual," telegraph "hammock," or if "hastiness," telegraph "hardship," and so on. Telegrams are very costly and ought to be sent as seldom as possible. At the same time, when it is important for Peking to be informed about anything, or for Yatung (Thibet) to be instructed, do not hesitate to telegraph. My address here is simply "Hart, Peking." You will do well to register yours wherever the line ends (? Darjeeling or Gnatong), so that we may have only two words to pay for, e.g., "Custos, Darjeeling," or "Custos, Gnatong" (Custos is the word under which most Commissioners have registered their addresses at the telegraph offices).

11. As regards correspondence, your first despatch to me No. 1/I. G., is to acknowledge No. 1/Yatung, and your second No. 2/I. G., is to acknowledge this (No. 2/Yatung), and is to report what arrangements you commence with. You will do well to introduce the L. O. system of archiving, numbering, and registering from the very first, and as regards a subject register, one simple alphabetical index, combined with a single series of numbers for all documents, affords the surest and speediest method for recording and consulting.

12. Trade statistics are to be prepared and forwarded every quarter and every year to the Statistical Secretary for publication. The Yatung statistics will form Appendix IV in the "Customs Gazette." The Mengtsz returns are the ones it will be best to model Yatung's statistics on.

13. In conclusion, I need only say that the post for which you have been selected is one of very great importance and interest, and I shall expect you to do everything in your power to make things go well. Cultivate friendly relations with all classes, officials and traders—British, Indian, Thibetan, and Chinese—and make business as easy as possible for everybody. Acquire the language (Thibetan) and make friends with the people, but trust to the influence the growth of friendly feelings and tacit observations will have, and avoid lecturing, suggesting, and advising. Active propagandism will at this stage be more likely to breed suspicion and dislike than to either plant innovation or rear reform. Finally, you will have noticed, no doubt, that Convention and Regulations and general Articles have been confined to delimitation, commerce, and official relations, and that missionary work has not been anywhere alluded to. You are to follow this lead and observe silence on this point. Thibetan peculiarities are such that any attempt at religious proselytism, however commendable or desirable, would at this juncture be certain to thwart the object so steadily kept in view, and so patiently followed during five long years of all but hopeless negotiation.



## Inclosure 5 in No. 25.

*Mr. W. Parsons to Government of India.**Calcutta, February 25, 1905.*

IT is probably known to you that for some years past attempts have been made by Indian tea-growers to cultivate a trade in Indian brick tea with Thibet. Bricks resembling those made in China have been manufactured on gardens in the Darjeeling district, but have not so far found a ready sale among Thibetans. Captain O'Connor, British trade agent at Gyantse, and other Political Officers acquainted with the country, have given it as their opinion that one of the reasons for this failure is that the Indian bricks are not a sufficiently exact imitation of the Chinese article.

2. To make a better imitation has not yet been found to be possible on Indian estates, and it is therefore surmised that the manufacturing process followed in China is imperfectly understood here. In order to remedy this difficulty Captain O'Connor has suggested the deputation to Szechuan of an experienced tea planter, for the purpose of investigating the methods employed by the Chinese. Such a deputation the Indian Tea Cess Committee are prepared to send, and they have already allotted funds for it. They have been very kindly furnished by Mr. E. C. Wilton, of His Britannic Majesty's Chinese Consular Service, with information respecting the route to be followed by the Commissioner and with other useful particulars. Mr. Wilton has further suggested that they should approach the British Minister at Peking, with a request for the issue of confidential instructions to His Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Shanghai, the Commercial Attaché at Shanghai, the Consul at Ichang, and the Consul-General at Chengtu, to render the Commissioner all possible official assistance. Mr. Wilton has further recommended that Sir Ernest Satow should be asked to permit the Commissioner, while staying at Chengtu, to see and take notes from Mr. Hosie's Report (1904) on Szechuan, which includes information on the brick-tea industry. This permission would be useful, Mr. Wilton thinks, because the Report, or a portion of it, is believed to be confidential and not in circulation.

3. I am to inquire if the Government of India will be pleased to assist the Committee by addressing the British Minister to the foregoing effect. If so, I am respectfully to suggest that prompt action be taken, as it is of importance that the Commissioner should leave Calcutta not later than the 31st March. I am to add that Mr. James Hutchinson, a Darjeeling tea planter, who successfully conducted a similar mission to Formosa last year, has been appointed Commissioner.

## Inclosure 6 in No. 25.

*Diary kept by Captain O'Connor, R.A., British Trade Agent, Gyantse, for Week ending February 5, 1905.*

(Extract.)

NEWS received from Lhasa during the week shows that all is quiet there. It is said that a letter has been received from Mongolia from the Dalai Lama approving of the terms of the Treaty and instructing the people to abide by them. There are said to be a considerable number of Mongolians and Thibetans from the Rastun Provinces of Thibet in Lhasa just now, but their presence is due to the arrival at Lhasa of an incarnate lama from the Arndo district (in western Kanen), and to have no hostile significance.

## No. 26.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received April 8.)*

(No. 70.)

My Lord,

*Peking, February 23, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, with reference to your telegram No. 24 of the 20th instant, copy of a note which I have addressed to Prince Ch'ing, notifying him of the appointment of Mr. Wilton as Assistant Commissioner in the negotiations to take place in Calcutta on the subject of Thibet.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.



## Inclosure in No. 26.

*Sir E. Satow to Prince Ch'ing.*

Your Highness,

*Peking, February 22, 1905.*

I DULY communicated to His Majesty's Government and to the Government of India your Highness' note of the 30th November, 1904, acquainting me with the appointment of Mr. Henderson to assist in the Treaty negotiations which T'anstach'en is proceeding to India to conduct.

I have now received a telegram from His Majesty's Secretary of State, instructing me to inform the Chinese Government that Mr. Wilton, who was Assistant Commissioner during the negotiations at Lhasa, has been appointed Assistant Commissioner in the negotiations to take place in India.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

## No. 27.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received April 25.)*

(No. 79.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, April 25, 1905.*

HIS Majesty's Acting Consul at Chengtu telegraphs to me as follows:—

"I have received from the same source as that reported in my telegram No. 5 a further telegram as follows:—

"Referring to hostilities at Batang; French missionary; one shot; two buried alive. Officials have left Litang and remain at Hokou. The Thibetans have been defeated. Taining soldiers have taken monastery.

"The Commander-in-chief has sent a telegram to the Viceroy confirming the report of the victory at Taining, which is situated 150 li (say 55 miles) from Tachienlu. He will not make a further forward movement before reinforcements reach him.

"That night the French Consul received a telegram saying that four priests had been murdered in the disturbances."

## No. 28.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received April 26.)*

(No. 81.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, April, 26, 1905.*

PLEASE refer to my telegram No. 79.

I have received the following telegram from His Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Chengtu:—

"With reference to my telegram No. 8, the Viceroy has assured me that adequate measures are being taken, under his orders, to cope with the situation.

"Lien Yü, Prefect of Yachow, has been appointed Resident, and will shortly proceed to Lhasa."

## No. 29.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 67.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, April 26, 1905.*

PLEASE state whether the Amban, whose murder was reported, in your telegram No. 76 of the 21st instant, is Yu-tai.



*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 27.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 26th instant, relative to the Thibet negotiations.

*India Office, April 27, 1905.*

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Inclosure in No. 30.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*April 26, 1905.*

THIBET. Negotiations with Chinese Commissioner Tang having proved satisfactory, a draft Convention between Great Britain and China, in six Articles, was submitted to him, with an intimation that the Government of India were prepared to recommend His Majesty's Government to adopt it. Following is the text of the Articles, together with references to correspondence relating to each:—

Article I.—The British Government recognize the suzerainty of China over Thibet.  
(*Reference.*—Letter dated the 29th September, 1904, from India Office to Foreign Office, copy inclosed with letter from Political Secretary dated the 30th September, 1904.)

Art. II.—The Convention signed on the 7th September, 1904, on behalf of the Governments of Great Britain and Thibet, and the text of which, in English, is attached to the present Convention as an annex, is hereby confirmed, subject to the modification granted in the Declaration appended thereto; and both High Contracting Parties engage to take at all times such steps as may be necessary to secure due fulfilment of the terms specified therein.

Art. III.—The British Government have no desire either to annex Thibet, or to establish a Protectorate over it, or in any way to control its internal administration, so long as no foreign Power endeavours to intervene in the affairs of Thibet.

(*Reference.*—Despatch from Lord Lansdowne to Sir C. Hardinge, dated the 2nd June, 1904, No. 224 A, copy inclosed with letter from Political Secretary, dated the 10th June, 1904.)

Art. IV.—The British Government have no desire to seek for themselves or their own subjects the concessions denied to foreign Powers or their subjects by Article IX (d) of the Convention signed on the 7th September, 1904, on behalf of the Governments of Great Britain and Thibet. But they reserve the right to lay down by arrangement with the Thibetan Government telegraph lines connecting India with the trade marts defined in Article II of the aforesaid Convention.

(*References.*—Despatch from Lord Lansdowne to Sir C. Hardinge, dated the 27th September, 1904, No. 344; and letter dated the 28th September, 1904, from India Office to Foreign Office, copies of which were inclosed with letter from Political Secretary, dated the 30th September, 1904. This Article IV is based upon the intention of Article IX (d) of the Anglo-Thibetan Convention of the 7th September, 1904.)

Art. V.—The Chinese Government engage not to employ any one, not a Chinese subject and not of Chinese nationality, in any capacity whatsoever in Thibet.

This Article is the outcome of the discussions which have taken place between Fraser and the Chinese Commissioner. The removal of officers of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Service is, *inter alia*, secured by this provision.

Art. VI.—The English and Chinese texts of the present Convention have been carefully compared; but in the event of there being any difference of meaning between them, the sense as expressed in the English text shall be held to be the correct sense.

The above Articles have been communicated by telegraph to Peking by Tang, who we now learn with surprise is advising the Chinese Government not to accept them. In this he is apparently actuated by wounded dignity, of which he has displayed many symptoms lately. We are hopeful, however, that the Convention, which is in our opinion extremely favourable to China, may still be secured if His Majesty's Government will support us in refusing to admit any modification of it.



We have informed Sir E. Satow of the result of the negotiations at Calcutta, and have added, in case subject should be mentioned to him, that the self-denying explanation of Article IX of the Anglo-Thibetan Convention of the 7th September, 1904, as contained in Articles III and IV of the draft, goes far beyond what the Chinese Government had reason to expect, and, generally, that the terms now proposed are the utmost the Government of India are prepared to offer.

## No. 31.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received April 27.)*

(No. 85.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, April 27, 1905.*

IN reply to your Lordship's telegram No. 67, I have the honour to inform you that the designation "Amban" is a general one applied to various grades of functionaries in the outlying parts of China.

The official in question who has been murdered was Assistant Resident in Thibet, employed on the western frontier of Szechuen on special duty.

## No. 32.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 28.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in letters from the Foreign Secretary, Calcutta, dated the 23rd and 30th March, relative to Thibet affairs.

Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

*India Office, April 27, 1905.*

## Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

*Government of Bengal to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Calcutta, January 25, 1905.*

IN continuation of the letter from this office, dated the 17th December, 1904, I am directed to submit the accompanying extract, paragraphs 3 to 5, from a letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling, dated the 16th January, 1905, containing his frontier confidential report for the week ending the 14th January, 1905.

## Inclosure 2 in No. 32.

*Deputy Commissioner Garrett to Government of Bengal.*

(Confidential.)

(Extract.)

*Camp Rississum, January 16, 1905.*

3. THE trade between India and Thibet seems to be particularly brisk at present; large consignments of all kinds of Indian goods are passing daily into Thibet, and wool is being imported very freely. The export trade will, however, be considerably hampered during the next month, during which the Teesta valley road will be entirely closed under the orders of the Public Works Department. The price of wool in Kalimpong has touched a point it has never reached before, viz., 26·8 rupees per maund: the highest price hitherto realized was 25·8 rupees. This high price will no doubt act as an incentive to the Thibetan traders to bring down every seer they can lay their hands upon, for it will bring them in a profit of 30 to 35 per cent.

4. It is reported that one of the Shapes with a clerk started from Lhassa on the 25th ultimo on a tour between that place and Gyantse, with a view, first, to repopulate those villages along the route which were deserted during the progress of the Mission;



and, secondly, to arrange for halting stages for officials on their way between the two places. No definite news as to the probable date of the return of the Dalai Lama to Lhasa has yet reached me.

5. Two Lamas from the Phodrang Monastery in Sikkim have arrived in Darjeeling: they have been deputed by Kumar Srid-Kyong Tulku of Sikkim to come into this district, and try and collect subscriptions for the re-construction of the monastery.

Inclosure 3 in No. 32.

*Mr. Bell to Mr. White.*

(Confidential.)

*Chumbi, February 15, 1905.*

*Customs duties at Phari.*—I have the honour to report that trade continues to be free of Customs duties at Phari. The traders are naturally much pleased at their abolition, the news of which had spread rapidly into Thibet by returning traders. They say that the volume of the trade should be thereby augmented in a considerable degree, though at present insufficiency of transport prevents a large increase.

2. *Dalai Lama.*—It is difficult to obtain here any trustworthy news as to the present whereabouts of the Dalai Lama. Some say at Urga in Mongolia, others in China, but practically all are agreed that the Thibetans are anxious to bring him back to Lhasa, and that he is likely to return there.

\* \* \* \* \*

Inclosure 4 in No. 32.

*Mr. Bell to Mr. White.*

(Confidential.)

*Chumbi, February 22, 1905.*

*Dalai Lama.*—The general impression among the Lhasa officials seems to be that the Dalai Lama intended to tell the Emperor of China that, unless the Emperor could protect Thibet effectually, the Thibetans would have to turn for protection to the British, since it would be better for them to have the British alone as their masters, instead of both the British and Chinese as at present. It is for a similar reason that the inhabitants of the Chumbi Valley welcome the occupation of their country by ourselves, namely, that they now have one master only instead of three, viz., Chinese, Thibetans, and Bhutanese, especially the latter with the frequent robberies, with which they used to harass the Chumbi Valley. It is thought that the Emperor of China will respond by giving monetary assistance towards the payment of the indemnity, as China is already accustomed to giving money to Thibet in the shape of subsidies to monasteries, &c.

2. *Chinese officials in the Chumbi Valley.*—The work of Popon (or Ho-pon), the Chinese head civil officer in the valley, and that of Tungling, the Chinese head military officer in the valley, is at present being done by a Mr. Sung, who lives at Pipitang, three miles down the valley from Chumbi camp. It is said that one Shing Tio, who has already arrived in Calcutta, will shortly relieve Mr Sung of his duties as "Popon," and that an officer from Nyarong\*, who has already arrived in Lhasa, will come on here and take up the post of Tungling. Mr. Sung may, perhaps, then return to Shigatse, where he held the post of Popon before he came here nine months ago.

\* \* \* \* \*

4. *Trade.*—The imports into Thibet via Yatung during last month were valued at 1,48,986 rupees, exclusive of 23,600 rupees, in rupees. This is the highest import ever recorded for January, with the exception of January, 1899, when the value was practically the same, being 1,48,991 rupees, exclusive of 32,673 rupees, in rupees. The value of exports was about at the average for January. The scarcity of transport affects imports less than exports, since the former contain greater value in smaller bulk.

\* \* \* \* \*

\* A sub-province of Kam, on the Thibet-China border, near Ta-chien-lu.



## Inclosure 5 in No. 32.

*Mr. Bell to Mr. White.*

(Confidential.)

*Chumbi, March 1, 1905.*

*Duties at Phari.*—The Phari Jongpens have recommenced taking taxes as before from the traders who pass through. I have written and asked them why they have done so, in view of their previous communication to me on the subject. Articles II and IV of the Convention, if the copy published in the "Pioneer" of the 23rd February is correct, seem to forbid the levy of Customs duties at Phari.

2. *Tsang soldiers.*—All information received from Shigatse agrees that the soldiers of the Tsang Province, who were killed during the progress of the Mission, have not yet been replaced.

## Inclosure 6 in No. 32.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Gyantse, February 16, 1905.*

WITH reference to your telegram dated the 8th instant, as far as I can ascertain, Chinese troops were first stationed in the Chumbi Valley in the year 1890, shortly after our first Sikkim Expedition, the ostensible object being to assist the Thibetans in keeping foreigners out of the country. But I cannot find that the Thibetans ever expressed any desire for these troops, or that they attach any importance to their retention in the Chumbi Valley; whereas, on the other hand, the people of Chumbi dislike their presence extremely, and would be delighted if they were withdrawn.

2. Their total number is said to be 500, the main body being stationed at Chotenkarpo, and furnishing small detachments of a few men each at Chema (Phema), Yatung, Ta Karpo, Phari, Thuna, Khamba, and at two or three other posting stages on the Gyantse road.

## Inclosure 7 in No. 32.

*Mr. White to Government of India.**Sikkim, February 23, 1905.*

WITH reference to your telegram of the 8th instant, regarding the Chinese troops in Chumbi, Mr. Bell reports as follows:—

The actual number of Chinese soldiers stationed in the Valley at present is—

At Phari (at the head of the valley)	..	..	..	..	..	6
„ Chotenkarpo, three miles above Chumbi camp	..	..	..	..	..	30
„ Yatung	..	..	..	..	..	10
Total	..	..	..	..	..	46

2. In addition to the above, there are said to be 18 at Khamba Jong, 4 at Gyantse, and 16 on different stages between here and Gyantse to look after the Chinese post. This makes a total of 84 in all under the orders of the Tungling (Chinese frontier officer) stationed at Pipitang, a village 3 miles below Chumbi camp. The sanctioned number is 140, but the full strength is never kept up. The Tunglings eke out their own salaries by appropriating the balance of the pay.

3. The soldiers are armed with muzzle-loading guns. The former Timpu Jongpen, who was driven out of Bhutan and settled in the Chumbi Valley, presented the then Tungling with twenty of the guns some years ago.

4. In addition to the soldiers, there are orderlies, called Yungs. Of these, there are—

At Yatung	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
„ Pipitang	..	..	..	..	..	..	40

They are armed with spears and swords only.

5. The Chinese troops were first stationed in the Chumbi Valley about 1890 or 1891 (two or three years after the Sikkim Expedition of 1888), in order to show that China claims suzerainty over the country.



The above refers only to recent years. The first occupation of Phari Jong by Chinese troops occurred in 1792-93 after the war between Nepal and Thibet, in which the Chinese were called in to assist the Thibetans, and defeated the Nepalese.

The Chinese authorities then made the Chola Jeylap range the north-eastern boundary of Sikkim, and appropriated the Chumbi Valley as part of Thibet.

Inclosure 8 in No. 32.

*Mr. Bell to Mr. White.*

*Chumbi, March 7, 1905.*

*Duties at Phari.*—The Phari Jongpens have again taken off the duties at Phari, since the receipt by them of my last letter asking them why they had put them on again (see paragraph (1) of my letter of 1st March). The trade, therefore, at Phari is now again free of all taxes.

2. *Indian Tea.*—The traders here are still afraid to take Indian tea to Thibet for sale. They fear that the Chinese and Thibetan officials, especially the former, will punish them if they do so.

3. *Trade Returns.*—The trade returns of last month show exports (from Thibet) of 53,714 rupees, exclusive of 17,000 rupees in treasure, and imports (to Thibet) of 90,210 rupees, exclusive of 27,600 rupees in treasure. The heavy snowfall during the month blocked the passes for about ten days; when this is taken into account the trade was about up to the average. As previously stated, a large amount of wool is being held over until next year owing to insufficiency of transport. Early in February the price of wool had risen to 11r. 4a. per 24 tros (about one maund) in Lhasa on account of a report having arrived there that wool was selling for 30 rupees per maund in Kalimpong.

*Memorandum.*

Copy submitted to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, for information.

(Signed) C. A. BELL,  
*Assistant Political Agent, Chumbi.*

*Chumbi, March 7, 1905.*

Inclosure 9 in No. 32.

*Government of India to Mr. White.*

*Fort William, March 11, 1905.*

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 30th December, 1904, submitting certain proposals for the approval of the Government of India, relating to the administration of justice, the collection of revenue, the supply of free labour, and the status of Chinese officials and Chinese European Customs Officers in the Chumbi Valley.

2. I am now to convey the following orders and remarks on your proposals in the order in which they are stated in your letter.

3. The Government of India are of opinion that, as the occupation of the Chumbi Valley is (subject to the due fulfilment by the Thibetan Government of their obligations under Article VII of the Lhasa Convention) to be for three years only, administrative arrangements should be of the simplest character. With regard to the administration of justice, the jurisdiction arising from our military occupation should be limited merely to—

(i.) Jurisdiction over our own subjects if any case demanding our intervention should occur; and

(ii.) Jurisdiction in cases where it is necessary to assume it for the preservation of order in the district.

This being so, the Political Agent for the time being should deal ordinarily only with cases in which British subjects are concerned, and should not take cognizance



of the class of cases specified in sections (b) and (c) of your proposals under this head.

4. With regard to the collection of revenue, I am to observe that it appears from a report on the Chumbi Valley,\* submitted by Mr. Walsh, that, with the exception of a trifling sum paid for grass, the liability of the people to the Thibetan Government in this respect is confined to the obligation to render certain services to the Government and its officers, to whom they are bound to supply labourers, messengers, transport, riding mules and ponies, grass, wood, and, on occasions, personal servants. During the present occupation of the Valley, the Government of India should take the place of the Thibetan Government, and are entitled to services of the above kinds. There are certain disadvantages in such a system. On the other hand, there are obvious objections to a cash assessment, inasmuch as this would involve the undertaking of functions which were not exercised by the Thibetan Government. Before orders are passed, therefore, I am to request that the Government of India may be furnished with an expression of your views as to the extent to which we may usefully accept our dues in service, or ask for a money payment in substitution. In the case of the latter, you should explain whether it would be preferable to call upon the Kongdus to pay a lump sum, to be assessed from the people as they may arrange (which would seem to be the simplest and least irritating plan), or whether you would propose to appropriate the proceeds of one or more of the existing taxes on land, grazing, houses, and cattle.

5. The proposals contained in paragraph 3 of your letter, regarding free labour, are approved.

6. As regards the Chinese officials in Chumbi, the Government of India understand that, apart from the customs officials, the only Chinese functionaries are—

(1.) The Thung-ling, in command of a regiment of 140 soldiers stationed at different posts to control the frontier; and

(2.) The Phog-pon, or paymaster, of the above regiment.

Neither of these, it is presumed, have any jurisdiction at present, and it will be the duty of the Political Agent to see that they do not acquire any so long as the British occupation lasts.

7. In paragraph 5 of your letter it is stated that the Chinese officials have been in the habit of demanding transport without payment. I am to say that the Government of India concur in your opinion that this practice should be discontinued, and that, should these officials require any transport, they should, in future, submit requisitions to the Political Agent and pay for it at local rates.

8. The Government of India are not in a position at present to lay down a definite procedure in regard to the treatment of the Chinese Imperial customs officers. The question of the removal of these officials from the Chumbi Valley is now being considered.

No. 32\*.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 71.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, April 29, 1905.*

WE do not understand Tang's reluctance to sign Adhesion Agreement, in view of fact that Government of India have apparently in Articles 1 and 4 fully met the objections which the Chinese Government originally made to Convention with Thibet, on account of possible difficulties with other Powers respecting Article IX and the question of suzerainty.

Should the subject be mentioned to you by the Chinese Government you should speak in the sense of the telegram which the Government of India have addressed to you, and make it clear that there is not the least likelihood of their obtaining better terms.

\* Report on the portion of Thibet lying south of the Tang-la.



## No. 33.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received May 1.)*

(No. 90.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, May 1, 1905.*

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 71, I have the honour to inform you that I sent to India on the 27th ultimo a telegram as follows:—

"Please refer to your telegram of the 26th ultimo.

"The subject has not been mentioned to me by the Chinese Government, but, if they do mention it, I shall act as requested.

"A ridiculous statement has appeared in the native papers regarding the result of the negotiations. It asserts, for instance, that the proposed Convention places Thibet under the joint protectorate of China and Great Britain. I have caused a flat denial of the authenticity of this rumour to be made; I suspect it was the work of a Russian agent."

## No. 34.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 3.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary, Simla, dated the 13th April, relative to Thibet affairs.

(Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.)

*India Office, May 2, 1905.*

## Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

*Mr. Colvin to Government of India.*

*Srinagar, February 27, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to invite a reference to paragraph 9 of my letter, dated the 2nd November, 1904, with which I forwarded the trade reports received from my Assistants at Leh and Kashgar for the year 1903-1904.

2. I now inclose copy of a letter, dated the 13th February, 1905, from my Assistant at Leh, in which he inquires whether the route from Leh to Gartok is to be considered open to trade, or whether a few selected men may be permitted to use the route as an experiment.

3. I recommend that a few selected men should be allowed to proceed to Gartok during the current year for purposes of trade. My Assistant at Leh could, on their return from Gartok, obtain from them valuable information as to the prospects of trade between Gartok and Ladakh, and as to the condition of the road beyond the Ladakh frontier.

## Inclosure 2 in No. 34.

*Captain Patterson to Mr. Colvin.*

*February 14, 1905.*

IT was recently announced in the "Pioneer" that Captain Rawling had made arrangements for the opening of a market for trade at Gartok in Western Thibet. I have to-day received a deputation from influential Punjabi traders, inquiring whether they are permitted to proceed to Gartok from Leh for purposes of trade. They are sanguine of good results. They maintain that there is a very fair opening for merchants in Western Thibet, and propose to sell European piece-goods, silks, and miscellaneous articles, and purchase in return wool Pashm, Lhasa tea, and gold. It would appear that the best trade route for Western Thibet is via the Simla-Thibet road; but the men whom I have seen to-day are, and have been for a considerable time, engaged in



Central Asian trade. They make Leh their head-quarters during the autumn of each year, and consider it, therefore, a favourable place as centre both for trade with Kashgar and with Western Thibet, if the latter is opened. There are, moreover, no great physical difficulties to be overcome. The road from Leh to Gartok is for the country an easy one. In spite of the great height, it is, owing to the scanty snowfall in those regions, open the whole year round. It appears to me a favourable opportunity for opening Western Thibet to our merchants. For the first year, perhaps, the experiment might be confined to a few selected men, who are experienced in the ways and manners of the people and are accustomed to organizing caravans for work in such inhospitable tracts. If the results are good, improvements could be made in the communications, and every facility offered towards the opening up of the country.

2. As it would be necessary to give these men some intimation in advance so as to enable them to make the necessary preparations, I have the honour to request that I may receive early orders as to whether this route is to be considered open to trade, or whether an experiment may be made by a few selected men.

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Inclosure 3 in No. 34.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Thibet, March 1, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith an account of an interview with the Yutok Sha-pe held here yesterday, the 28th February. I would venture to call attention to his request that the Phari Jongpens may be allowed to reoccupy Phari Jong.

2. The Sha-pe arrived shortly after noon, accompanied by his son, four Secretaries, and two representatives of the Lhasa monasteries. After the exchange of the usual compliments, he asked me whether I had as yet received any reply to his request that the Phari Jongpens might be allowed to reoccupy the jong at Phari. I replied that I had as yet received no answer, but that I would inform Government that the Sha-pe had again referred to the matter.

3. He then alluded to the question of the telegraph line between Phari and Gyantse, which he said caused great inconvenience to the peasants along the road owing to some of the posts being planted in their fields, and to their fears lest they should be punished should the line be broken; so could we not arrange to do without a telegraph line at all. I replied I that feared this was impossible, and that no doubt the peasants would soon become accustomed to the line, just as the Indian peasants had accustomed themselves to telegraphs and railways; but I said I would try to avoid having posts planted in the middle of the fields, as they might very likely interfere with the ploughing, &c.

4. The Sha-pe then said that our rest-houses at Kala, Kangma, and Sa-u-gang were built upon cultivated ground. I said that I would investigate the matter and would ask permission to give a small sum in compensation to the owners of the fields in question.

5. He then alluded to the question of the Jongpens at Phari taking tolls upon merchandize, and asked whether I could not give permission for them to do so, or until the new trade regulations were settled. I replied that I had no power to do this; that any such action on the part of Jongpens would be an infringement of Clause IV of the Treaty, and that I should strongly recommend him to let the matter drop, as it might lead to trouble; and that the sooner an answer was received from Lhasa to the Viceroy's invitation to Thibetan Delegates to visit India the sooner would the question of levying dues be settled.

6. The Sha-pe then made a long speech, in which he said that the Thibetans were quite satisfied with the present arrangements regarding trade marts, &c., and they all hoped that the newly cemented friendship would be of long duration and that a flourishing trade would spring up. But, he said, it was obviously impossible that either he or I could be permanently stationed at Gyantse. I might have to go away and would be replaced by some other officers between whom and the local authorities trouble might arise regarding questions of jurisdiction over Thibetan and British subjects, and so on. Would it not therefore be as well, he asked, for us to take advantage of this opportunity to come to some arrangement on the subject? I replied that he was very right in his remarks, and that such arrangements were usual in China and elsewhere; but that at present I was not authorized to make any definite arrangements with



him, but that no doubt this matter as well as others relating to purely trading questions would be settled later, when representatives of both parties were appointed in accordance with the terms of the Treaty. In the meantime, no disagreement was likely to arise, as I had no intention of interfering in any way with Thibetan subjects, and the relations between the Jongpen and myself were of the most friendly nature.

7. One or two other matters of quite minor importance were mentioned, and the interview closed after lasting two and a-half hours. The Sha-pe and his suite then lunched with me and stayed till 5 p.m., looking at pictures, photographs, &c. All, including the Lhasa monks, appeared very friendly, and I think the reason for raising most of the questions which were discussed was more in deference to a desire to be able to report some progress to Lhasa than on account of the intrinsic importance of the questions themselves.

8. Might I request that a copy of this letter be sent to Mr. A. C. White?

Inclosure 4 in No. 34.

*Mr. Bell to Political Agent in Sikkim.*

(Confidential.)

*Chumbi, March 7, 1905.*

*Duties at Phari.*—The Phari Jongpens have again taken off the duties at Phari, since the receipt by them of my last letter, asking them why they had put them on again (see paragraph (1) of my F. C. R. 11). The trade, therefore, at Phari is now again free of all taxes.

2. *Indian Tea.*—The traders here are all still afraid to take Indian tea to Thibet for sale. They fear that the Chinese and Thibetan officials, especially the former, will punish them if they do so.

3. *Trade Returns.*—The trade returns of last month show exports (from Thibet) of 53,714 rupees, exclusive of 17,000 rupees in treasure, and imports (to Thibet) of 90,210 rupees, exclusive of 27,600 rupees in treasure. The heavy snowfall during the month blocked the passes for about ten days; when this is taken into account, the trade was about up to the average. As previously stated, a large amount of wool is being held over until next year owing to insufficiency of transport. Early in February the price of wool had risen to rupees 11 : 4 : 0 per 24 tros (about 1 maund) in Lhasa on account of a report having arrived there that wool was selling for 30 rupees per maund in Khamba Jong.

Inclosure 5 in No. 34.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Calcutta, March 14, 1905.*

THIBET negotiations.

Please refer to your telegram of 11th March.

Mr. Fraser will sign the Convention. Please send, as early as possible, full powers to enable him to do so.

Inclosure 6 in No. 34.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Gyantse, April 5, 1905.*

LETTER received yesterday evening from Ti Rimpoche and Assembly, declining Viceroy's invitation to India on grounds of heat, and also because any matters which still require settlement can be equally well discussed at Gyantse.

(Addressed Foreign; repeated White.)



## Inclosure 7 in No. 34.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

Sir,

*Gyantse, March 15, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 16th February, 1905, in which you instruct me to furnish to the Government of India my detailed opinion on the points raised in your attached letter also dated the 16th February, 1905.

2. Paragraph 1 of this latter letter remarks that the only point for serious consideration is whether the line of communication to be opened should be a cart road or a mule track. The considerations which should lead to a decision on this matter would appear to group themselves under four principal heads—

- (a.) Military;
- (b.) Political;
- (c.) Commercial;
- (d.) Technical, including engineering and financial considerations.

(a.) As to the first of these, the Government of India, in paragraph 3 of their letter No. 669 E. B., have already expressed an opinion which, however widely it may differ from the opinion of some military and other officers acquainted with the country, has no doubt been arrived at after consultation with their military advisers, and regarding which, therefore, it would be unnecessary for me to express my views.

(b.) As to the second consideration, I may venture to say that I am in thorough agreement with the views of Government, as given in paragraph 4 of the above-quoted letter. The political effect of the proposed road will, I think, be undoubtedly good, and such an effect is the more desirable, as our immediate influence over the Thibetans will inevitably wane after our withdrawal from the Chumbi Valley, and any circumstance which may tend to foster closer relations, or to prove our determination to maintain an open mart at Gyantse, should be of assistance in our future dealings with the Thibetans. The existence of the road should also be of help in maintaining our present satisfactory relations with Bhutan.

(c.) *Commercial Considerations.*—Under this heading Government have suggested various points for consideration:—

(1.) Whether the proposed route would subserve exclusively or mainly through trade to and from Thibet, and whether any local traffic is likely to spring up.

The question of local traffic is of course a matter of supply and demand.

As to supplies, the country through which the new route will run between Thibet proper and India produces practically nothing except, in the lower reaches, timber. The Chumbi Valley has neither natural products (if again we except timber) or manufactures, and the same may be said of the portion of Bhutan through which the road will pass.

The small amount of cultivation existing in the Dichu Valley is too insignificant to be taken seriously into consideration.

As to demand, it is obvious that in tracts so sparsely populated as Chumbi and Western Bhutan the demand for any given commodity must be exceedingly small, whilst the new road will not tap the trade of Sikkim at all.

It may be said, therefore, that the traffic will be mainly and almost exclusively a through traffic between the railway terminus on the Bengal Duars Railway and Gyantse.

(2.) *The Question whether the Traffic will be conducted mainly by Carts or by Mules.*—This obviously will depend to a great extent upon the nature of the cart road, and the state of repair in which it is kept. If we assume that a cart road will be constructed in accordance with the trace described in paragraph 1 of letter No. 669 E. B. quoted above, on a ruling gradient of 1 in 30 between the plains of India and Rinchengong, there can be no doubt, I think, that for this section of the road, at any rate, carts would be used almost exclusively. As an instance I may refer to the almost exclusive use of carts on the Teesta Valley road as far as Rangpo, and even on the steep hill road leading to Kalimpong. The use of carts, however, depends to a great extent upon the sum spent yearly in maintenance of roadway, culverts, and bridges, and this sum, in a country with as heavy a rainfall as Western Bhutan is known to possess, must necessarily be heavy.



(3.) *As to where Carts or Mules are to be forthcoming.*—This matter should present no great difficulties. Carts are procurable, or can be made up in the plains at the foot of the hills in practically unlimited numbers, and would be drawn by bullocks. Mules and ponies, if required, could be purchased by traders in Thibet, or hired from the Chumbi people. The people of the Chumbi Valley have hitherto always been able to supply a sufficiency of transport for the needs of the carrying trade between Phari and Kalimpong, and there is no reason to suppose that in the future they (or others) will not be able to do the same between Rinchengong and the Duars. Or, similarly, carts could be made available for transport over this section of the route, just as at present carts are used between Siliguri and Kalimpong. Drivers for carts would presumably be plainsmen. Muleteers would be Chumbi men, Sikkimese, or Thibetans.

(4.) The inhabitants of the Chumbi Valley, who have hitherto practically monopolized the carrying trade between Phari and Kalimpong, and who have regularly acted besides as middlemen in the purchase and sale of wool and other commodities, will no doubt at first strongly resent the diminution of their exclusive privileges. But they will be powerless to prevent enterprising merchants from conducting trading operations between Gyantse and India entirely without the assistance of the Chumbi people, and a healthy competition should arise which will have the effect both of cheapening commodities and eventually of lowering the prohibitive rates of hire of the Chumbi carriers. This will be to the benefit both of the merchants themselves and of their clients at each end of the line, whilst the people of Chumbi, although losing their present indefensible monopolies, should always be able to make an honest livelihood by the letting out of transport animals at reasonable rates, and by the other services which their intermediate position between markets will enable them to render to merchants and travellers.

(5.) In paragraph 6 of letter No. 669 E. B., Government inquire as to the spot at which caravans would have to be organized. It does not seem clear why caravans should be organized at all. Caravans, it is true, are common, for instance, on the north-west frontier of India, where for various reasons it is desirable that merchants should travel together in bodies, where the camping grounds are generally speaking spacious, and where the system is suitable to the beast of burden chiefly used—the camel. But in these hills none of these conditions of travel prevail. Given that the Bhutanese robbers refrain from hostilities, there is no reason why traders who are not connected with one another should travel in company. Each merchant will probably prefer, as at present, to conduct his venture at the time and season and in the manner which he finds most convenient without reference to other people's movements. The camping grounds, I should imagine, would nowhere be spacious on the new route, and further, if the traffic is to be by carts, the fewer that are on a given stage of the road at any one time the better. If by mules, they would probably prefer to travel as they do now, in lots of from ten to fifty or sixty at a time, each under its own owner and Headman. If this should prove to be the case, there would appear to be no particular reason why any person should be stationed at the railway base "to organize the trade and transport arrangements there" (paragraph 6), any more than at Kalimpong or at Siliguri under existing conditions. The levying of tolls and checking of merchandize will, of course, have to be arranged for later. It is not, I think, intended to raise the question in this connection.

(6.) With reference to the query in paragraph 7 of letter No. 669 E. B. as to whether there is any prospect of trade deserting its present route over the Jelap La to Kalimpong, I am strongly of opinion that the lapse of a very few years after the completion of the new road will see the whole of the through traffic diverted to this route. I am aware that it is difficult to divert trade from long-recognized and well-worn highways, but the advantages which the new route will offer will preponderate so greatly over those presented by the circuitous and mountainous track leading to Kalimpong that I think the latter will have little chance in the competition.

(7.) But in order to divert trade from Kalimpong and Siliguri to the terminus of the new road on the Duars Railway it will be necessary to substitute some entrepôt or central exchange mart for the present mart at Kalimpong. Some such half-way house will be necessary, as Thibetan traders will not venture to the plains of India (except in rare instances), and Indians will hesitate to proceed further than to Rinchengong or Chumbi. The new Treaty leaves us Yatung as a trade mart, but its exceedingly inconvenient situation (it will not be upon the new route at all) makes it useless for the purposes of a half-way mart in this connection. If it could be arranged, then, that, instead of at Yatung, a mart could be held at or near Rinchengong, this latter place would probably suit the purpose admirably; and it is so close to



Yatung that, if the actual buildings and warehouses were constructed a short distance up the Yatung Valley, the provisions of the Treaty would be sufficiently met for all practical purposes.

(d.) Regarding engineering and technical considerations to which the Government of India have called attention in their letter quoted before, I am not competent to advise or to offer opinions. I notice, however, that in paragraph 1 of their letter Government, in alluding to the alignment taken by the trace which has already been laid down on a ruling gradient of one in thirty, remarks that it is therefore obvious that "it is too late to consider on what alignment the trace should be laid out." If, then, this trace is to be used, it would clearly be a waste of money to make a mule track on a ruling gradient of  $\frac{1}{30}$  with curves of a minimum radius of 100 feet, whereas a most excellent cart road could be constructed on this alignment, and there can, I think, be no question that a cart road will serve the interest of trade better than will a mule track. My full views on this question of roads I have already submitted to Government in my "Note on Trade Routes between India and Thibet," dated the 13th April, 1903, and my "Note on Communications between the Plains of India and Gyantse," dated the 22nd December, 1904, in which latter I commented chiefly on the unsuitability of the Nathu La route as a future trade route. I may add that my opinions were shared to a great extent by Sir Francis Younghusband, who took a great interest in this matter, and frequently conversed with me on the subject of communications.

3. In conclusion I would remark that, so far as I have been able to ascertain, the average annual export of wool from Thibet to India by the Kalimpong route is some 30,000 to 40,000 maunds, and of other commodities some 10,000 maunds, or a total of from 40,000 to 80,000 maunds. If we take the imports into Thibet as being about the same, we should have an average yearly import and export traffic of 80,000 to 100,000 maunds. If, as may be hoped, our Duars and Terai planters can master the art of making a brick tea to suit the Thibetan market (and the Indian Tea Cess Committee have recently adopted my suggestion of sending a Delegate to Se-Chran to learn the process), these figures should very largely increase a greater proportion of Thibet's raw products (especially wool) being exported in exchange for the tea. I should hope, in fact, that during the course of the next few years the volume of our trade would double itself. Further increases will depend upon what degree of material prosperity may result to the Thibetans in general from their intercourse with civilization and the advantage of an unrestricted trade with India.

#### No. 35.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 9.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 20th ultimo, relative to Thibet affairs.

*India Office, May 8, 1905.*

#### Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

*Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Ravenshaw to the Government of India.*

*Camp, vid Segowlie, February 2, 1905.*

IN continuation of my letter dated the 28th January, 1905, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the translation of a letter dated the 27th January, 1905, addressed to the four Kazis at Lhasa by the Prime Minister of Nepal.



## Inclosure 2 in No. 35.

*Prime Minister of Nepal to the Four Kazis of Lhasa.*

(After compliments.)

*January 27, 1905.*

IT is long since I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you. I trust that all is well at Lhasa.

The Bara Lath Saheb, I am glad to learn from a very credible source, has been graciously and magnanimously pleased not only to reduce the indemnity from 75 to 25 lakhs of rupees, but has also reduced the period of occupation of Chumbi to three years, contingent on the punctual payment of the first three annual instalments and your general favourable attitude towards the expansion of trade in Thibet; besides leaving the visits of the Commissioner at Gyantse to Lhasa to be settled by mutual arrangement when necessary.

In my last letter, dated the 6th Mangsir, 1961, I wrote that the only course by adopting which you could best serve the interests of your country was to tread the path of honour and honesty, to be true to your promise, to strictly carry out the provisions of the Treaty recently concluded, and in every way to prove your good faith to the British Government, and, if necessary, to represent your grievances fully and respectfully to them. I had also, at the same time as requested, represented your hard case to the Government of India for their kind consideration.

I never expected that your relief would come so soon, but it is only your correct and friendly attitude of the past few months since the conclusion of the Treaty and your general desire to respect the same that has completely changed the aspect of things and has produced these desirable results. It is only a few months since you were engaged in an apparent death-struggle with the British Government, and it goes some way to prove that the British Government can not only deal out hard blows, but they are also willing and ready, when fit, to confer great boons. I may quote here the instance of an Ameer of Kabul, who, having failed in his duty, fared very badly, but his successor was befriended and made much of and paid 18 lakhs of rupees a year by the great and magnanimous British Government, because of his ability to be true to his Treaty obligations. Ever since I wrote my letter of the 20th Bhadra, 1960, I have been consistently harping upon this important point. From the concessions which you have now received you will be convinced what advantages you would have gained if you had used your opportunities properly in the beginning. If you exercise tact and judgment in your relations with our powerful neighbour, if you act up to your promise, scrupulously carry out the provisions of the Convention, have a proper regard for the power and resources of the British Government, help them in a friendly and neighbourly way, and generally try to promote mutual well-being, I am sure you will prosper greatly, and the recent struggle instead of being a curse will prove a blessing in disguise.

Trusting that this will find you all right.

Dated the 15th Mag, Friday, Sambat 1961 (corresponding to the 27th January, 1905).

## No. 36.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received May 10.)*

(No. 93.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, May 10, 1905.*

PLEASE refer to telegram from India addressed to the Secretary of State for India of the 26th April and to your Lordship's telegram No. 72 respecting the appointment of a Chinese Consul at Calcutta.

I am informed by Foreign Board that Tang had no instructions to make his proposal, which they appear to regard with indifference.

It would be no use trying to get a *quid pro quo* out of Tang unless the Chinese Government took a real interest in the matter.

(Repeated to India.)



No. 37.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 12.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 11th instant, relative to the Thibet negotiations.

*India Office, May 12, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 37.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

Telegraphic.) P.

*May 11, 1905.*

THIBET. A draft Convention stipulating for recognition of sovereignty, not suzerainty, of China over Thibet has now been formally submitted by Tang. The draft, moreover, while regarding as an existing Agreement (*sic*) the Lhasa Convention, would place the responsibility for the fulfilment of its terms by Thibetans upon China, subject to such modifications as arise out of stipulation as to sovereignty referred to above and other new Articles. The Amban is also made the intermediary for the arrangement and execution of all matters connected with Convention under the terms of the draft. The draft, amongst other things, limits British merchants to the nearest existing roads to the trade marts; prohibits British subjects from travelling beyond these points; and provides for the establishment of telegraphic communication with one only of the marts, and that by the Chinese Government.

The intention and operation of the Lhasa Convention would be wholly vitiated by a Convention of this nature, and the conditions which led to the necessity for the recent Mission would be reproduced, if the fiction of Chinese direct responsibility were to be re-established.

In these circumstances we are refusing to consider Tang's draft Convention, and are informing him that His Majesty's Government are unlikely to be willing to go beyond the terms of our draft (reported in my telegram of the 26th ultimo), and that negotiations can proceed on that basis only.

(Repeated to Peking.)

No. 38.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 16.)*

Sir,

*India Office, May 15, 1905.*

WITH reference to the telegram from the Viceroy of the 11th instant as to the negotiations on the subject of the adhesion of China to the Thibet Convention, and with reference to your letter of the 29th April forwarding the instructions sent by the Marquess of Lansdowne to His Majesty's Minister at Peking on the subject of the Viceroy's telegram of the 26th April, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to state that he proposes, subject to Lord Lansdowne's concurrence, to approve the answer which Lord Curzon suggests should be given to the Chinese Plenipotentiary in respect of the draft Convention submitted on behalf of the Chinese Government.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) A. GODLEY.



## No. 39.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received May 19.)*

(No. 100.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, May 19, 1905.*

I HAVE sent the following telegram to the Government of India to-day :—

“Please refer to your telegram of the 26th ultimo respecting Thibet.

“The leading English paper of Shanghai published on the 8th instant a correct résumé of the draft Convention, which it had evidently procured from the Wai-wu Pu.

“The editor adds that Tang’s report stated that he had attempted to secure an alteration of the objectionable stipulations, but had been given to understand that the limit of the concessions we would make was contained in this draft.”

## No. 40.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, May 20, 1905.*

I LAID before the Marquess of Lansdowne your letter of the 15th instant, relative to the negotiations on the subject of the adhesion of China to the Thibet Convention, in which it is proposed to approve the answer which the Viceroy of India, in his telegram of the 11th instant, suggests should be given to the Chinese Commission in respect of the draft Convention submitted on behalf of the Chinese Government.

I am to state that Lord Lansdowne concurs in the proposal of the Secretary of State for India to approve the answer suggested by Lord Curzon.

I am, &c.

(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

## No. 41.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 24.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 27th April, relative to Thibet affairs.

*India Office, May 23, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 41.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Secret.)

*Gyantse, March 24, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 9th March, 1905, in which you instruct me to furnish at an early date a full report upon the manner in which the successive Commissioners of Chinese Customs holding appointments in Thibet have performed those of their duties that do not concern customs matters.

2. In reply, I would state that in my experience of this frontier I have been acquainted with only two of the Commissioners of Chinese Customs who have been stationed at Yatung, namely, Mr. Henderson and Captain Parr; and I am not aware what duties other than those which concern customs matters these officers are expected to perform. During the period that Chinese Customs service officers have been stationed at Yatung these officers have interested themselves in varying degrees in Thibetan politics, and it is believed that their advice, as Chinese officials, has been at the disposal of the ignorant Thibetans. This advice, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, can scarcely have been other than prejudicial to British interests; and, indeed, the mere fact of Englishmen serving as employés of the Chinese Government in Thibet, upon the very frontiers of British India, is calculated to convey a very



undesirable impression to the Thibetans, apart altogether from the personal conduct and opinions of the officers themselves. But as I cannot say whether it was a part of the duties of these officers to interest themselves in political matters these remarks may not perhaps have a direct bearing on the point regarding which I am to report.

3. It is, however, known that with the dispatch of the recent Mission to Kamba Jong, the Chinese Customs Officer at Yatung was appointed to act as Joint Commissioner with Mr. Ho (and later with the Amban) in negotiating with the British Commissioner; and the deputation of this officer to perform this special duty afforded an interesting opportunity of ascertaining—

(a.) The position of the Chinese Customs Officers in the estimation of the Thibetans;

(b.) The manner in which their previous training would probably fit these officers for dealing with the Thibetans in matters apart from their ordinary duties in connection with the customs; and

(c.) How the conduct of these officers might affect British interests in Thibet.

In the remarks which follows I would say that I am endeavouring to speak in general terms only, and that I regard the instances quoted as typical and as in no way reflecting upon the individual officer in whose case they occurred.

(a.) It might be supposed that as employés of the Chinese Government the Chinese Customs Officer stationed in Thibet would enjoy a certain amount of consideration from the Thibetans. Real Chinese officials come and go freely throughout the country, are afforded free transport and supplies, and have—until quite recently—been treated with a good deal of respect. But the case of the European officers in Chinese employ is entirely different. They are regarded with just as much jealousy and suspicion by the Thibetans as any other “outsiders,” as the Thibetans generically term foreigners, and are subject to just the same restrictions and annoyances.

For instance, when ordered to proceed from Yatung to Kamba Jong, Captain Parr desired to proceed via the Chumbi Valley. He was not allowed by the Thibetans to do so, and was obliged to follow the British Commissioner through Sikkim. Far from being provided with free transport and supplies it was all he could do to procure anything at all in Thibet, and on one occasion at least was obliged to seize transport animals by force. On various occasions his hired transport drivers (Thibetans) bolted for fear of being punished for being in his employment. He was only able to cross the frontier at all through being under our protection. The Thibetan officials never on any single occasion referred to him as a Chinese official or showed him any respect, and, finally, his kit was looted and his servants murdered by the Thibetans when the Mission was attacked at Gyantse. And all this occurred, it should be remembered, at the time when Captain Parr was actually acting as the Representative of the supreme Chinese Government as Commissioner in negotiations on behalf of the Thibetans.

(b.) So much for the attitude of the Thibetans towards the officers of the Chinese Customs service. As to the attitude of these officers towards the Thibetans it is more difficult to generalize. But in the first place it is not unnatural that the Europeans in the employment of the Chinese Government should, to a certain extent, adopt the attitude towards the Thibetans of the Chinese officials proper. The Chinese invariably speak of the Thibetans as ignorant barbarians, and treat them with a hauteur to which the Thibetans are well accustomed; and, indeed, China has immemorial claims for adopting a patronising attitude to Thibet. So it is only natural that a European officer, holding perhaps high rank as a Chinese official, when he sees officials of an inferior standing to himself treating the Thibetans *de haut en bas* and claiming as a right free transport and supplies and other gratifications, should endeavour to follow their example and to exact a respect to which in the opinion of the Thibetans he has no real or sufficient claim. That this is the attitude hitherto taken up by these officers it is impossible to deny. I refrain from quoting concrete instances as they might appear invidious; but I repeat that I regard such instances as typical and as merely the natural outcome of a very difficult situation apart from the idiosyncrasies of individual officers. And, indeed, it will be obvious that there could scarcely be a more exasperating situation for an Englishman than to find himself flouted by ignorant peasants like the Thibetans, whilst the real Chinese officials—whose superior he may perhaps consider himself—are treated with respect and allowed every kind of licence. The fact that so few instances have occurred in which this exasperation has found vent may be regarded as very creditable to the patience and self-control of the officers of the Chinese Customs; but still such cases have occurred and have left their natural impression upon the Thibetans, and their recurrence is always to be feared.

(c.) From the above remarks we see that the position of the Chinese Customs



service officers in Thibet is a very anomalous one. Their own very natural desire to assert themselves as Chinese officials in the face of the distrust and dislike of the Thibetans creates a very difficult and unsatisfactory situation. However assured may be the position of the officers of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs in China proper it is an eminently undesirable one in the borders of India and Thibet, and serves to give a very erroneous impression to the Thibetans. They do not understand why Englishmen should be servants of the Chinese Government, and they decline to recognise the right of such foreigners to claim the privileges enjoyed by real Chinese as the result of centuries of patronage and suzerainty. Whilst any attempts on the part of the foreigners to enforce their claims to respect and to the exercise of authority merely lead to ill-feeling and hostility which is directed against foreigners in general and the English in particular. No blame in the matter is attached by the Thibetans to the Chinese, who are far too clever to identify themselves with any unpopular policy, and who lay the blame for any disagreeable incident upon the naturally over-bearing ways and unreasonable temper of the "sahebs."

4. Recent events in Thibet have afforded an opportunity for forming, and practically proving the correctness of, the views put forward above. Numerous instances could be quoted in confirmation, but as they might appear to have a personal bearing, I have refrained from adducing them.

5. I would request that a copy of this letter may be sent to Mr. J. C. White.

No. 42.

*Consul-General Wilkinson to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received June 14.)*

(No. 8.)

My Lord,

*Yünnan-fu, April 28, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch which I have addressed to His Majesty's Minister reporting a massacre of members of the French Roman Catholic Mission to East Thibet by lamas of Batang.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. WILKINSON.

Inclosure in No. 42.

*Consul-General Wilkinson to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 16.)

Sir,

*Yünnan-fu, April 28, 1905.*

PÈRE MAIRE, the Provicairé of the Roman Catholic Mission here, called this morning to show me a telegram which he had just received from a native priest of his Mission at Tali. The telegram, which is in Latin, is dated Tali, the 24th April, and is to the effect that the lamas of Batang have killed PP. Musset and Soulié, together with, it is believed, 200 converts. The chapel at Atentse has been burnt down, and the lamas hold the road to Tachienlu. Père Bourdonnec (another member of the French Thibet Mission) begs that Père Maire will take action.

Père Maire has accordingly written to M. Leduc, my French colleague, who will doubtless communicate with the Governor-General. The Provicairé is of opinion that the missionaries were attacked by orders of the ex-Dalai Lama, as the nearest Europeans on whom he could avenge his disgrace. He is good enough to say that he will give me any further information which he may receive.

I am telegraphing to you the news of the massacre.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. WILKINSON.

No. 43.

*Acting Consul Litton to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received June 14.)*

(No. 6.)

My Lord,

*Tengyueh, May 14, 1905.*

YOUR Lordship will have received intelligence concerning the uprising of Thibetan lamas at Batang, which has resulted in the murder of a high Chinese official and at least one Catholic priest.



I have received a letter from one of the French priests of the Thibetan Mission, dated from Wei Hsi, in North-West Yünnan, the 18th April. On the occurrence of the outbreak he fled from near Batang, and was pursued as far as Atentse by some 400 lamas, who burnt the Roman Catholic establishment, and, it is feared, destroyed the small Chinese garrison at Atentse. The revolt, in fact, appears to have suddenly spread to all the large lamaseries in North-West Yünnan.

My informant analyses the causes of these disorders as follows :—

1. For some two years past the Szechuan Government has been endeavouring to bring Batang and the adjacent country under the ordinary jurisdiction of the Chinese officials, which was violently resented by the lamas.

2. The new Amban, or Assistant Amban, who was murdered, had been delaying his journey at Batang for some months, and his followers had been guilty of pillaging the Thibetans.

3. The considerable party which is still attached to the deposed Grand Lama has been active in intrigues against the Chinese officials, who, it is argued, have been proved by recent events quite incapable of safeguarding the privileges of the lamaist body, and incompetent to exercise the rights of suzerain over Thibet—that is to say, the lamas have realized the utter feebleness of the Chinese Government.

Before the outbreak at Batang the probably false rumour was spread about that the deposed Grand Lama had “descended from Heaven,” had arrived in Tachienlu, and was about to return to Lhasa.

4. It is said that secret orders had been issued by the great lamaseries at Lhasa to Batang and other places for the murder of all Chinese and Europeans near the Thibetan frontier.

5. The lamas about Litang have a further feud with the Chinese officials, who last year seized the kenpu, or chief steward, of their lamasery and chopped off his head.

Though at this distance it is hard to judge, the movement seems to be primarily anti-Chinese, and may be taken as another proof of the hopeless weakness of the Mandarin Government.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. LITTON.

#### No. 44.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received June 19.)*

(No. 139. Confidential.)

My Lord,

*Peking, April 26, 1905.*

A PRIVATE letter from Kalgan of the 18th instant contains the following information, derived from Mr. Larsen, a Swedish subject in the employ of the British and Foreign Bible Society :—

It is quite certain that the Dalai Lama is still at Urga. The Mongols are making large presents to him in silver bullion, cattle, horses, &c. He is said to have a personal following of 2,000, but this is probably an exaggeration, and 700 or 800 would be nearer the mark. It is decided that he is shortly to move south, but his exact destination is not settled, and discussions are going on as to whether Kueihuacheng, Peking, or Wutaishan would be the most suitable residence for him. His presence at Urga is ruining the local Incarnate Buddha or Bogdo Lama both in revenues and reputation, and this is one of the reasons why it is not considered desirable that he should remain at Urga.

From a leading official of the Foreign Board, I learn that the Dalai Lama will leave Urga some time in May, and will proceed to Si-ning, where he will be detained during the Imperial pleasure. The same good authority informed me that the relations of the two “Incarnate Buddhas” were the reverse of friendly.

A copy of this despatch has been sent to India.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.



No. 45.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received June 19.)*

(No. 156.)

My Lord,

Peking, May 3, 1905.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith, with reference to my telegram No. 85 of the 27th ultimo, copies of two despatches which I have received from His Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Chengtu with regard to affairs on the Thibetan border.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

ERNEST SATOW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 45.

*Acting Consul-General Campbell to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 8. Confidential.)

Sir,

Chengtu, March 20, 1905. ✓

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your information some extracts from a letter which I received this morning from a correspondent in Ta-chien-lu, with reference to affairs on the Thibetan border.

The Fêng tajên mentioned is Fêng Ch'üan, formerly the Taotai in charge of the police in Chengtu, and now Assistant Resident at Chamdo. He is a person of considerable force of character, and I gather generally that he has been given a rather free hand to extend Chinese influence and Government in Eastern Thibet.

I hear that a portion of the material for the extension of the telegraph line to Chamdo from Ta-chien-lu has arrived in Western Szechuen, and that the work will be executed without delay.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

C. W. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 45.

*Extracts from a private letter dated Ta-chien-lu, March 8, 1905.* ✓

"THE Chinese Government, or the Szechuen Viceroy, seem to have decided to get a firmer hold of Eastern Thibet. Fêng tajên, who has recently gone to Batang, has many schemes on hand for opening up the country to agriculture and settling Chinese at important centres.

"There are rumours that Chan-tui, a large district north-west of Litang, is to be taken over and placed under direct Chinese control, with Chinese officials. The Ta-chien-lu official was to have gone this month, but he has received orders to wait.

"The Viceroy has ordered gold mining to be started at Tai-ling—two days' march north of Ta-chien-lu—and has given 10,000 taels for the purpose. The official has given 2,000 taels himself, and four local merchants 500 taels each, to start operations and see if the mining will pay. The Thibetans at Tai-ling are threatening to resist the opening of gold mines, and some soldiers have already been sent to the place, and more are to follow with the official himself.

"The Thibetan Chief at Ta-chien-lu is very anxious about his position just now. His chief adviser, a lama, has prophesied that if he can keep away from Ta-chien-lu for three years, all will be well. So the Chief, his brother, and all his retainers, are living in the country two or three days' journey from here.

"Ta-chien-lu is becoming quite a military town now. There are three companies of Chinese troops, and one Thibetan company recently enlisted. All these additions have been made within the last twelve months or so; the Thibetan troops are an entirely new venture.

"Until quite recently there was a Representative of the Dalai Lama here in Ta-chien-lu, on his way from Peking to Lhassa. He came to see Dr. Shelton, and asked if he, Dr. Shelton, would wire to Peking for him to get instructions what to do with the numerous presents which he had in his possession. These presents were given to him at Peking for the Dalai Lama. The telegram was not sent, and I think he must have started a few days ago for Thibet."



## Inclosure 3 in No. 45.

*Acting Consul-General Campbell to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 12. Confidential.)

Sir,

*Chengtzu, March 30, 1905.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 8 of the 20th instant, and to my telegram No. 2 of to-day, I have the honour to inclose for your information some extracts from a private letter received to-day from my Ta-chien-lu correspondent.

News was received here on the 27th instant of a disturbance at the Tai-ling gold mines, north of Ta-chien-lu, and yesterday the provincial Commander-in-chief called to tell me that he will proceed in person to Ta-chien-lu on the 2nd April, with a battalion and mountain guns to keep the Lamas in check.

In the Official Gazette received by me yesterday, there is published an official document to the effect that Fêng tajên was proposing to employ the men of two regiments (one Chinese and one Thibetan) under his orders in supervising mining and land-reclamation enterprises when they are not engaged on purely military services. He hoped in three or four years to reclaim over 50,000 mou (say 10,000 acres) of land at Batang, and he was also engaging labour to bring new ground into cultivation in the Ta-chien-lu district.

Fêng tajên is headstrong, and it is evident that his plans must create serious disturbances, unless the Chinese garrisons in east Thibet are strengthened.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) C. W. CAMPBELL.

## Inclosure 4 in No. 45.

*Extracts from private letter dated Ta-chien-lu, March 20, 1905.*

I THINK we are on the verge of a most exciting time here in Ta-chien-lu, and some bloodshed, also perhaps . . . . . This affair just now commenced with the attempt of the Chinese to open gold mines at Tai-ling, but the trouble originates deeper than that, and rumour declares their object is to take back all this territory from the Chinese. One very significant fact just now is that the Thibetan Chief, whose residence is in Ta-chien-lu, has, for the last year, been nearly always away in the country somewhere, and, although the Chinese official has asked him to come and attend to his duties in the city during this present crisis, he still remains where he is in the country, pleading sickness as his reason for not coming.

The Thibetan Chief's reason for going and living in the country is because the lama, who is his chief adviser, has foretold that there is to be trouble, but that if the Chief can keep away from Ta-chien-lu for three years he will escape it all.

There is a rumour just now that the Thibetan tribes on this eastern border have been preparing for the last year to overthrow Chinese authority throughout this whole territory, and drive the Chinese from Batang, Litang, and Ta-chien-lu. Allowing for much of this talk to be without foundation, there is, undoubtedly, something big on, and for the last two or three days the officials have refused to give any information whatever. Last night some serious news was brought from Litang, and an officer and some soldiers were sent at once, even after dark, to watch the first pass between here and Litang.

Some of the people are already afraid of an attack on the city, which might come any time, but I think the facts have been greatly exaggerated, and probably whatever has taken place at Litang may be due to local causes. One reason given is because three Thibetans have been seized and punished for having robbed a French priest near Litang. The Tsan-tui territory extends from somewhere near Litang up to Tai-ling, where the Chinese were going to open the gold mines; this is being opposed by the lamas in the monastery there, most of whom are natives of Tsan-tui, so it is more than likely the affair at Litang is connected with that at Tai-ling, and it may be they are planning to join their forces near here, and attack Ta-chien-lu.

China has decided to take over Tsan-tui territory from Thibet, and it may be the people having heard of this, are going to resist Chinese rule.

We expect some developments within the next few days, and I expect things have gone too far now to settle the matter without fighting.



No. 46.

*Consul-General Wilkinson to the Marquess of Lansdowne.*—(Received June 19.)

(No. 10.)

My Lord,

Yunnan-fu, May 3, 1905.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 8 of the 28th ultimo, I have the honour to inclose copy of a further report which I have made to His Majesty's Minister on the recent *émeute* in Chinese Thibet.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

W. H. WILKINSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 46.

*Consul-General Wilkinson to Sir Ernest Satow.*

(No. 18.)

Sir,

Yunnan-fu, May 2, 1905.

IN continuation of my despatch No. 16 of the 28th April, I have the honour to report that on the afternoon of that day M. Leduc received from Mgr. Giraudeau, Bishop of the French Roman Catholic Mission to Chinese Thibet, a telegram dated at Tachienlu, in which it was stated that four French missionaries had been murdered. Their names were not given.

I subsequently learnt that the Amban, Fêng, was also killed in the *émeute*, which apparently took place some three weeks ago. You will doubtless have received fuller details from Ch'engt'u; but I forward such information as has reached me.

Yesterday the Governor-General sent me by the hands of Chiang ssu-yeh a copy of a telegram received on the 28th April, from the Prefect of Lichiang, viâ Tali. Of this I have the honour to inclose copy and translation.

Chiang ssu-yeh told me that the Governor-General of Ssu-ch'uan had telegraphed to Ting chiht'ai requesting his assistance in suppressing the rising, since Batang is more accessible from Tali than from Ch'engt'u. Ting chiht'ai, I was given to understand, replied that Yunnan is not well provided with troops; but, as you will see from the Prefect of Lichiang's telegram, efforts have been made to send forward a force to restore order.

Chiang ssu-yeh observed that it is not clear from the Prefect's telegram that the missionary establishments at Atuntzu have been burnt. All that the Subprefect of Weihsi reports is that "there has been destruction and hurt." I fear, however, that we must conclude that this phrase covers sack and pillage, if not massacre, at Atuntzu, for if the rioting had been confined to Batang—which is wholly within the Ssu-ch'uan borders—Mgr. Giraudeau would hardly be invoking the aid of M. Leduc as well as that of M. Bons d'Anty. Chiang, I may add, was inclined to impute the whole trouble to the harshness which Fêng tach'en had shown throughout his tenure of office.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

W. H. WILKINSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 46.

(Translation.)

*Telegram from Li Sheng-ch'ing, Prefect of Lichiang; received at Yunnan-fu the 24th of the 3rd moon (April 28, 1905).*

TO the Directorate General of Military Affairs and to the Foreign Department.

After sending off my telegram "ti" on the 18th, I received at 8 p.m. an urgent note from Li, Subprefect of Weihsi, reporting that "the missionary establishment at Batang has been burnt down, the Amban H. E. Fêng has lost his life, the priest Mu (P. Mussot) has been murdered, and the priest P'u (?) has fled into Weihsi. The rioters have broken into Atuntzu, where the regulars and irregulars opposed them and exerted themselves to afford protection; but there has been destruction and hurt. Pray send troops promptly."

Such murdering of officials and of missionaries shows that the disturbance is no light one. If the mission establishments in this Prefecture are again harmed, the



indemnity will be heavy. I at once gave new orders to the left company of the "ta" battalion to march out on the 19th (23rd April), and I sent Commandant Shih, of that battalion, to follow up with his men, and moved the two companies of the Chien-wei battalion stationed at Yungpeh, on the line of march, to assist them. I also called out the local gendarmerie, and I am going to the front in person. I have written besides to Chungtien to keep the bonzes and savages in order, and not allow them to assist the rioters. I am also giving directions to the posts of danger everywhere to keep a good guard, and I am writing to the General and Brigadier. All details shall be reported *en route*.

As regards the pay and supplies for the local gendarmerie, may these be furnished to Lichiang from the nearest likin station?

Please inform his Excellency of everything, and write to the various officials, so that telegraphic instructions may be sent to me, the west guarded and the country made tranquil.

Report with the seal of Li Sheng-ch'ing, Prefect of Lichiang.

No. 47.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received July 6.)*

(No. 129.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, July 6, 1905.*

PRINCE CH'ING has sent me the following private message:—

"A telegram has been received from Tang Shao-yi in Calcutta to the effect that he is unable to see the least prospect of coming to a satisfactory agreement with the Government of India on the subject of the Thibetan Treaty.

"I think it is probable that outside comment may be provoked if the negotiations continue to drag on without any results being reached; an agitation on this subject would be disadvantageous to both countries. I should be glad if you would offer any suggestion as to how we should proceed.

"I bear in mind the fair and reasonable manner in which His Majesty's Government have dealt with the subject of Thibet and the Lhasa Convention, and am ready to agree that the negotiations should be transferred to London, whither Tang would be instructed to proceed, or to Peking, where the negotiations could be conducted between you and me.

"I should be glad to be informed of your private opinion with regard to the question."

An obvious comment is that it was the proposal of China herself that negotiations should be carried on at Calcutta through Tang, and it would seriously damage the Indian Government's prestige to allow him, having failed in the place chosen by China, to change the venue to London.

His Majesty's Government might, I suggest, either reply that if the arrangement proposed by the Government of India is not adopted they would prefer to do without any Agreement with China, or intimate that they have no objection to the conversation on the subject between Prince Ch'ing and myself, which was broken off last year, being resumed at the point it had then reached. Tang might, in the latter case, remain at Calcutta until we saw what the result of the communications between the Prince and me were likely to be. It would be necessary to tell the Chinese Government that they must abandon the practice of letting the press know what was passing.

In that case, I should try to secure that those individuals who prevented our discussions of last September from making satisfactory progress should not be allowed to take any part.

(Repeated to India.)



No. 48.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

(Confidential.)

Sir,

*Foreign Office, July 10, 1905.*

I AM directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to transmit to you, to be laid before the Secretary of State for India, the accompanying copy of a telegram from His Majesty's Minister at Peking,\* in which he reports that he has received a message from Prince Ching, suggesting that the negotiations with regard to the Thibetan Treaty should be transferred from Calcutta to London or Peking.

In the event of the venue being changed to the latter place, Sir E. Satow proposes that he should resume negotiations with the Wai-wu Pu at the point where they were broken off last year. An account of those negotiations is contained in Sir E. Satow's despatches Nos. 344 and 352, Very Confidential, of the 29th September and the 6th October last, copies of which are inclosed for convenience of reference.†

With regard to the allusion contained in the penultimate paragraph of this telegram to "the persons who interfered with the satisfactory progress of the discussions in September last," it is presumed that Sir E. Satow refers to the attitude of some of the foreign Ministers at Peking, mentioned in his telegram No. 215 of the 5th October of last year, copy of which is also inclosed.‡

Lord Lansdowne would be glad to be favoured with any observations which Mr. Brodrick may have to offer on the suggestions made by Sir E. Satow.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

No. 49.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 11.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 10th instant, regarding affairs at Lhassa.

*India Office, July 11, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 49.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*July 10, 1905.*

THIBET. We have received the following telegram, dated the 4th July, from British Trade Agent at Gyantse:—

"Last night a Japanese traveller, who had travelled from Mongolia, viâ Lhassa and Shigatse, arrived at Gyantse. He was disguised as a Mongolian. He states that about two months ago, when he was at Lhassa, two Russians arrived there dressed as Mongolians, with a following of Buriats, and took up quarters in Lhassa Bazaar. A few days afterwards they were followed by 19 camels, and subsequently by 80 more, loaded with long boxes which were believed to contain rifles, and when my informant left Lhassa for Shigatse 500 more camels were expected."

(Repeated to Peking.)

\* No. 47.

† Sir E. Satow, No. 344, September 29, and No. 352, October 6, 1904.

‡ Sir E. Satow, No. 215, Telegraphic, October 5, 1904.



## No. 50.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 11.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 10th July, respecting the negotiations with China on the subject of Thibet.

*India Office, July 11, 1905.*

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Inclosure in No. 50.*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

July 10, 1905.

THIBETAN Treaty.

Please refer to the private telegram of the 6th instant from Sir E. Satow to Lord Lansdowne. In view of signs of weakening which the present attitude of the Chinese seems to us to show, we are of opinion that, while resolutely adhering to the main position which, under the authority of His Majesty's Government, we have taken up, it might be wise to provide means by which China, without appearing to yield, could do so. We therefore recommend that it should be definitely intimated to the Chinese Government by His Majesty's Government that they are unable to agree to the negotiations being transferred either to Peking or to London, and that they would prefer to dispense with an Agreement with China altogether, in default of the arrangement which the Government of India have proposed. But as it is now evident that acceptance of our terms by Tang is dependent upon orders from his Government, the intervention of His Majesty's Minister at Peking would be welcomed by us, not as an alternative, or for the purpose of discussing any modification of terms we have proposed, but with a view to pressure or persuasion being applied to Prince Ching by Sir E. Satow, with a view to instructions for their acceptance being sent to Tang.

The claim of the Chinese to sovereignty over Thibet and to act as intermediaries between the Thibetans and ourselves is still the difficulty. In regard to the former we would invite attention to the letter dated the 21st September, 1891, addressed by Mr. James Hart, Chinese Political Officer, to Lord Lansdowne, then Viceroy, in which words to the following effect occur :—

"It may also be mentioned that a point is made by the Yamên of Thibet's condition, which they say is not the same as that of Mongolia, the Turkestan frontier, or Manchuria, which belong to China, but is to be dealt with by China as having in it still something of the simple tributary."

It will be seen from the above extract, which was written during the negotiations as to the Sikkim-Thibet Trade Regulations, that the position assumed by China in 1891 was different from that now taken up, and Sir E. Satow might find it useful to remind the Wai-wu Pu of this.

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No. 51.*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 14.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 8th June, relative to Thibet affairs.

(Copy has been sent to the Director of Military Operations.)

*India Office, July 13, 1905.*

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Inclosure in No. 51.

*Captain O'Connor to the Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

(Extract.)

*Gyantse, May 15, 1905.*

9th May.—A Secretary of the Tashi Lama called on me this morning. He has come up from Tashi Lumpo by order of the Lama to speak to me on the matter of the attitude of the Lhasa Government towards Tashi Lumpo. He says that for years past Lhasa has been jealous of the powers and sanctity of the Tashi Lama, and that the Lhasa Government have gradually deprived Tashi Lumpo of nearly all its former power, and only last year confiscated the large district of Khamba Jong. The Lama is now threatened apparently with further loss of territory and prestige, but has hitherto resisted the demands of the Lhasa Government; but he fears that on the return of the Dalai Lama he will be powerless to resist the pressure put upon him, unless, as he says, he can count upon some assistance from us. Could I promise him that the Indian Government would be prepared to give him a moral or material backing in the event of open friction with Lhasa?

To this I replied that we now regarded ourselves as friends of the Thibetans as a whole, and not of any particular section or party, and that our recent Treaty applied to the whole country. That in order to put a stop to acts of oppression on the part of the Lhasa Government directed against persons who were supposed to be friendly to ourselves, Colonel Younghusband had expressly stipulated before leaving Lhasa that such acts should cease henceforward; and a solemn promise was made to this effect in open Durbar by the Ti-Rimpoche and all four Shapes. I was in hopes therefore that nothing would be done by the Lhasa Government to punish Tashi Lumpo for their friendly feelings towards us (which was what the messenger had hinted at), as any such action on the part of the Central Government or of the Dalai Lama would be in direct violation of their promises to Colonel Young-husband.

A further effort is now being made to induce the Dalai Lama to return to Lhasa. Two parties have started for Mongolia with this object in view—one from Lhasa, and one from Shigatse. The latter consists of the abbot who was originally deputed here from Lhasa, and who is an uncle of the Tashi Lama's, with the chief cup-bearer to the Tashi Lama and other attendants. This party started some days ago, and is to meet the Lhasa party at Nagchuka, whence they will proceed together towards Mongolia. As far as I can learn, there is no real desire on the part of the Thibetans to induce the Dalai Lama to return, but they consider it politic to conciliate him by a display of anxiety for his presence at Lhasa, as all classes dread his possible vengeance upon those who have acted in a manner displeasing to him during his absence. It is considered probable that he will be back at Lhasa by the autumn. The present Shapes are regarded generally as mere ciphers, the only influence in the State being wielded at present by the Ti-Rimpoche and a few leading ecclesiastics in the Assembly.

No. 52.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 14.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 8th June, relative to Thibet affairs.

Copy has been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

*India Office, July 13, 1905.*



Inclosure 1 in No. 52.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Secret.)

*Gyantse, March 24, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 9th March, 1905, in which you instruct me to furnish at an early date a full report upon the manner in which the successive Commissioners of Chinese Customs holding appointments in Thibet have performed those of their duties that do not concern customs matters.

2. In reply, I would state that in my experience of this frontier I have been acquainted with only two of the Commissioners of Chinese Customs who have been stationed at Yatung, namely, Mr. Henderson and Captain Parr; and I am not aware what duties other than those which concern customs matters these officers are expected to perform. During the period that Chinese Customs service officers have been stationed at Yatung these officers have interested themselves in varying degrees in Thibetan politics, and it is believed that their advice, as Chinese officials, has been at the disposal of the ignorant Thibetans. This advice, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, can scarcely have been other than prejudicial to British interests; and, indeed, the mere fact of Englishmen serving as employés of the Chinese Government in Thibet, upon the very frontiers of British India, is calculated to convey a very undesirable impression to the Thibetans, apart altogether from the personal conduct and opinions of the officers themselves. But as I cannot say whether it was a part of the duties of these officers to interest themselves in political matters, these remarks may not perhaps have a direct bearing on the point regarding which I am to report.

3. It is, however, known that with the dispatch of the recent Mission to Kamba Jong, the Chinese Customs Officer at Yatung was appointed to act as Joint Commissioner with Mr. Ho (and later with the Amban) in negotiating with the British Commissioner; and the deputation of this officer to perform this special duty afforded an interesting opportunity of ascertaining—

(a.) The position of the Chinese Customs officers in the estimation of the Thibetans;

(b.) The manner in which their previous training would probably fit these officers for dealing with the Thibetans in matters apart from their ordinary duties in connection with the customs; and

(c.) How the conduct of these officers might affect British interests in Thibet.

In the remarks which follow, I would say that I am endeavouring to speak in general terms only, and that I regard the instances quoted as typical and as in no way reflecting upon the individual officer in whose case they occurred.

(a.) It might be supposed that as employés of the Chinese Government the Chinese Customs officers stationed in Thibet would enjoy a certain amount of consideration from the Thibetans. Real Chinese officials come and go freely throughout the country, are afforded free transport and supplies, and have, until quite recently, been treated with a good deal of respect. But the case of the European officers in Chinese employ is entirely different. They are regarded with just as much jealousy and suspicion by the Thibetans as any other "outsiders," as the Thibetans generically term foreigners, and are subject to just the same restrictions and annoyances.

For instance, when ordered to proceed from Yatung to Kamba Jong Captain Parr desired to proceed via the Chumbi Valley. He was not allowed by the Thibetans to do so, and was obliged to follow the British Commissioner through Sikkim. Far from being provided with free transport and supplies, it was all he could do to procure anything at all in Thibet, and on one occasion at least was obliged to seize transport animals by force. On various occasions his hired transport drivers (Thibetans) bolted for fear of being punished for being in his employment. He was only able to cross the frontier at all through being under our protection. The Thibetan officials never on any single occasion referred to him as a Chinese official or showed him any respect, and finally his kit was looted and his servants murdered by the Thibetans when the Mission was attacked at Gyantse. And all this occurred, it should be remembered, at the time when Captain Parr was actually acting as the Representative of the supreme Chinese Government as Commissioner in negotiations on behalf of the Thibetans.

(b.) So much for the attitude of the Thibetans towards the officers of the Chinese



Customs service. As to the attitude of these officers towards the Thibetans it is more difficult to generalize. But in the first place, it is not unnatural that the Europeans in the employment of the Chinese Government should to a certain extent adopt the attitude towards the Thibetans of the Chinese officials proper. The Chinese invariably speak of the Thibetans as ignorant barbarians, and treat them with a hauteur to which the Thibetans are well accustomed; and, indeed, China has immemorial claims for adopting a patronizing attitude to Thibet. So it is only natural that a European officer, holding perhaps high rank as a Chinese official, when he sees officials of an inferior standing to himself treating the Thibetans *de haut en bas*, and claiming as a right free transport and supplies and other gratifications, should endeavour to follow their example and to exact a respect which, in the opinion of the Thibetans, he has no real or sufficient claim. That this is the attitude hitherto taken up by these officers it is impossible to deny. I refrain from quoting concrete instances as they might appear invidious; but I repeat that I regard such instances as typical, and as merely the natural outcome of a very difficult situation, apart from the idiosyncrasies of individual officers. And, indeed, it will be obvious that there could scarcely be a more exasperating situation for an Englishman than to find himself flouted by ignorant peasants like the Thibetans, whilst the real Chinese officials, whose superior he may perhaps consider himself, are treated with respect and allowed every kind of license. The fact that so few instances have occurred in which this exasperation has found vent may be regarded as very creditable to the patience and self-control of the officers of the Chinese Customs; but still such cases have occurred and have left their natural impression upon the Thibetans, and their recurrence is always to be feared.

(c.) From the above remarks we see that the position of the Chinese Customs service officers in Thibet is a very anomalous one. Their own very natural desire to assert themselves as Chinese officials in the face of the distrust and dislike of the Thibetans creates a very difficult and unsatisfactory situation. However assured may be the position of the officers of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs in China proper, it is an eminently undesirable one in the borders of India and Thibet, and serves to give a very erroneous impression to the Thibetans. They do not understand why Englishmen should be servants of the Chinese Government, and they decline to recognize the right of such foreigners to claim the privileges enjoyed by real Chinese as the result of centuries of patronage and suzerainty. Whilst any attempts on the part of the foreigners to enforce their claims to respect and to the exercise of authority merely lead to ill-feeling and hostility, which is directed against foreigners in general and the English in particular. No blame in the matter is attached by the Thibetans to the Chinese, who are far too clever to identify themselves with any unpopular policy, and who lay the blame for any disagreeable incident upon the naturally over-bearing ways and unreasonable temper of the "sahebs."

4. Recent events in Thibet have afforded an opportunity for forming, and practically proving the correctness of, the views put forward above. Numerous instances could be quoted in confirmation, but as they might appear to have a personal bearing, I have refrained from adducing them.

5. I would request that a copy of this letter may be sent to Mr. J. C. White.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 52.

*Mr. Bell to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Chumbi, May 6, 1905.*

WITH reference to your letter dated the 18th ultimo, asking for a report on the manner in which the successive Commissioners of Customs in Thibet have performed those of their duties that do not concern Customs matters, I have the honour to report as follows:—

2. It appears that the Chinese civil official (Popon) at Pipitang in the Chumbi Valley,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Yatung, has usually consulted the Commissioner of Customs whenever he has any report to submit to the Amban at Lhasa.

3. Mr. Korb, a wool merchant at Kalimpong, asked Captain Parr, when the latter was Commissioner of Customs, to realise some trade-debts for him from certain inhabitants of the Chumbi Valley. Captain Parr sent his clerk's servant, who called them to



Yatung. Captain Parr told them that, unless they settled the case with Mr. Korb, he (Captain Parr) would apply to the Amban to have them punished. Nothing further happened, however, and the men were fined by Dirkey Sardar (the Thibetan official then in charge of the valley) for going to Captain Parr.

4. When General Macdonald passed through here last October on his way back from Lhasa, he destroyed, as being fortifications, the walls built across the valley at Yatung and at Choten Karpo, a Chinese village in the Chumbi Valley, 3 miles above Chumbi Camp. These walls are both regarded as belonging to the Chinese Government. Mr. Henderson, the Commissioner of Customs, lodged a protest before General Macdonald against their destruction.

5. Apart from these few occasions, I have been unable to find that the Commissioners of Customs intervened in public affairs other than those appertaining to their Customs work. Dirkey Sardar, who was for many years in charge of the valley, always forbade Thibetans to go to the Commissioner of Customs, and, as his house adjoined that of the Customs Commissioner, he could see that his order was obeyed.

6. The Thibetan officials, including Dirkey Sardar himself, and all the inhabitants of the valley have always looked upon the Commissioners of Customs as being officials under the British as well as under the Chinese Government. The fact that the Customs Commissioners were all Europeans made this belief a very strong one. Any action of theirs, their consultation with the Chinese officials, and their very presence at Yatung stopping and examining the traders' goods, were looked upon as being done under the orders of the British Government as well as of the Chinese Government. There can be no doubt, therefore, that their presence here has been harmful to British interests.

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Inclosure 3 in No. 52.

*Mr. White to Government of India.*

*Byagha (Bhutan), May 18, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of a copy of Sir Robert Hart's instructions to the Chinese Customs officer at Yatung conveyed in your letter dated Simla, the 18th April, 1905, and in reply to your letter dated Fort William, the 9th March, to submit a Report on the manner in which the successive Commissioners of Customs have performed those of their duties that do not concern Customs matters.

These duties, as described by Sir Robert Hart, were "to do all you possibly can, to foster, encourage, and develop trade, avoiding the introduction of any Rule, Regulation, or practice that is either uncalled for or likely to restrict trade or harass traders. Not to forget that the ordinary route from the frontier to Yatung, via Langjo and Tachun, is the route which British traders are expected to travel by, and that Yatung is the terminal point at which British traders are to stop, and beyond which they are not to penetrate Thibet. Any divergence from the route will call forth fresh suspicion, and any attempt to pass on beyond Yatung, or whatever point in Yatung is the real terminal point, will only delay, impede, and render impossible any future extension of the narrow limits to which Thibetan alarm is confining commercial intercourse to-day. To remember that the Chinese frontier officer will be charged with the duty of receiving and forwarding despatches, &c., for and to the Indian Government and the Chinese Resident (*vide* Regulation 7). I presume his couriers will also be at your service for similar work." In conclusion, Sir Robert adds:—

"I need only say that the post for which you have been selected is one of very great importance and interest, and I shall expect you to do everything in your power to make things go well. Cultivate friendly relations with all classes, officials and traders, British, Indian, Thibetan, and Chinese, and make business as easy as possible for everybody. Acquire the language, Thibetan, and make friends with the people, but trust to the influence the growth of friendly feelings and tacit observations will have, and avoid lecturing, suggesting, and advising. Active propagandism will at this stage be more likely to breed suspicion and dislike than to either plant innovation or rear reform. Finally, you will have noticed, no doubt, that Convention and Regulations and general Articles have been confined to delimitation, commerce, and



official relations, and that missionary work has not been anywhere alluded to. You are to follow this lead and observe silence on this point. Thibetan peculiarities are such that any attempt at religious proselytism, however commendable or desirable, would at this juncture be certain to thwart the object so steadily kept in view, and so patiently followed during five long years of all but hopeless negotiation."

It will be seen that the Customs officers have no political work to do and no power whatever beyond Yatung, and even there it is restricted to good offices only. I have quoted Sir Robert Hart at great length, as I think Captain O'Connor's Report has gone beyond the limits of the Report called for, and raises a much more important political question, viz., the very existence of these Customs officers in Thibet at all, a question I am not called upon now to discuss, though I agree with Captain O'Connor's conclusions in paragraph (c) that without further power and authority the position of the Chinese Customs officers in Thibet is a very anomalous one, and creates a very difficult and unsatisfactory situation. It must, however, be remembered that in China itself Customs officials have neither the powers nor the native status of the Taotais with whom they may be associated.

The Customs officers whom I have met at Yatung have been Mr. F. E. Taylor, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Henderson, Captain Parr, and again Mr. Henderson on his reappointment to Yatung.

Of the two first and Mr. Henderson, I can safely say that they in every way fully carried out the instructions of the Inspector-General, though as they complained, they were considerably hampered by our Government, having allowed Miss Taylor, really a well-known missionary, to remain at Yatung. These gentlemen gave me on all occasions most valuable assistance, and the strictures of Captain O'Connor in paragraph 3 (b) most distinctly do not apply to them, they never forgot their dignity nor position. Mr. Montgomery resided at Yatung for a short time only preparatory to leave on retirement, and did little or nothing.

Captain Parr was in a most difficult position, as he arrived when our disputes with Thibet were reaching an acute stage. Against him, as a Customs officer at Yatung, I have nothing to urge, but when he ceased to be a Customs officer whose duties confined him to Yatung and became a Joint Commissioner with Captain Ho under the Tsung-li Yamên, his position was as described by Captain O'Connor, and no doubt that officer may be justified in his scathing remarks.

Mr. Henderson, on his again taking up his duties at Yatung, had no political duties to perform there.

No. 53.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 14.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 13th July, respecting Mr. Wilton's proposed journey from India to China via Thibet.

*India Office, July 14, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 53.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

July 13, 1905.

THIBET. Please refer to your telegram of the 20th September last, which sanctioned Wilton's return to China via Thibet.

This having proved impracticable at the time, Wilton now proposes to undertake journey from Darjiling across Thibet to Batang, subject to consent of Thibetan authorities, and after the negotiations now proceeding with China are concluded. We



have already made application for a passport to Lhasa authorities, and we trust proposal is approved by His Majesty's Government. Party would consist of one English officer besides Wilton, two native subordinates, and twelve native followers. Cost (excluding allowances of Wilton, who will be treated, at his own request, as on leave already granted him by Sir E. Satow) is estimated at about 1,000*l*.

## No. 54.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 110.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, July 15, 1905.*

MR. WILTON'S return to China through Thibet, to which reference was made in your telegram No. 223 of 14th October, 1904.

We have been informed by telegram from Viceroy of India that an application has already been made to Lhasa for a passport to enable Mr. Wilton, when pending negotiations are concluded, to undertake a journey from Darjeeling to Batang through Thibet with natives and one other British officer.

I should be glad to learn whether, on score of safety of party or otherwise, you see any objection to the journey.

## No. 55.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received July 17.)*

(No. 180.)

My Lord,

*Peking, May 26, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, with reference to my despatch No. 156 of the 3rd instant, copy of a despatch which I have received from his Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Chengtu regarding the late Thibetan border disturbances.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

## Inclosure in No. 55.

*Acting Consul-General Goffe to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 14.)

Sir,

*Chengtu, April 25, 1905.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 8 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to report that the French Consul informed me this morning that the four priests were killed in Litang, evidently whilst attempting to escape to Ta-chien-lu from Batang.

Early this morning the Viceroy sent his secretary, Mr. Ts'ai, to the French Consul to express his regrets for the sad fate which had befallen the priests, and, soon after, his Excellency called in person for a similar purpose. Immediately afterwards the Viceroy paid me a visit, and, after thanking me for the information which I had sent him, proceeded to inform me of the measures he was taking to deal with the disturbances on the border. Two Hou-pu Taotais, by name Chao Erh-feng and Ch'ien Hsi-pao, the former of whom is at present Director of the Railway Bureau and the latter in charge of the "Official Gazette," are to proceed to Ta-chien-lu as soon as the requisite men and money can be got together. The Viceroy is naturally reluctant to denude the city entirely of foreign-drilled troops, and it is proposed to send only 1,000 men from here, a further 2,000 being collected on the road. His Excellency seemed to be fully alive to the importance of taking prompt action in order to avoid the danger of any foreign intervention.

There seems to be some apprehension here that the Thibetans may advance on Ta-chien-lu. The view taken by the officials is that the tribes in Batang and Litang are very poorly supplied with arms, and that they probably have not much more than the 300 rifles and ammunition captured from Fêng Ta-jên's force. It is thought possible, however, that they may have obtained small supplies from Russian and



other foreign sources. The Viceroy asked me to withdraw the British missionaries from Ta-chien-lu in the event of any serious disturbance occurring in that neighbourhood, and I replied that I would do so if the circumstances appeared to justify such a step. His Excellency appeared to have considerable misgivings as to the possibility of inflicting any effective punishment on the tribesmen, owing to the difficulty of tracking them to their hiding-places in the mountains and the general unsuitability of the country for military operations.

Lien Yü, the present Prefect of Ya-chou, who has been appointed Resident at Lhasa, is some 50 years of age, and is reported to be averse to harsh measures in administering his district. He is to leave for his post without delay, and it is not thought likely that he will visit Chengtu previous to his departure for Thibet. Of the two "expectant" Taotais who are being sent from here, and who are to be stationed at Ta-chien-lu "in charge of military affairs," Chao is said to be an energetic and capable official, while Ch'ien was not long since denounced by Ts'ên Ta-jên, the Viceroy of Canton, and has been deprived of his button.

General Ma's victory at T'ai Ning, referred to in my telegram No. 8, was in connection with the disturbances at the T'ai Ning gold mines, reported in Mr. Campbell's despatch No. 12 of the 30th ultimo.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HERBERT GOFFE.

No. 56.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received July 17.)*

(No. 184.)

My Lord,

*Peking, May 30, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith, in continuation of my despatch No. 174, Very Confidential, of the 18th instant, copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Chengtu, giving further particulars as to the Thibet border disturbances.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

*Acting Consul-General Goffe to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 16.)

Sir,

*Chengtu, May 3, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith some extracts from a private letter from Ta-chien-lu, giving the latest information obtainable in connection with recent events in Batang and Litang. Owing to the absence of any telegraphic communication west of Ta-chien-lu news filters through very slowly, and the reports received by the officials here are very meagre, and often contradictory.

The Viceroy has received urgent instructions from the throne to take prompt measures to subdue the tribes on the western border of the province, and he proposes to send 5,000 troops to the scene of the disturbance; 1,000 men left here on the 29th ultimo for Ta-chien-lu, and the rest are to follow as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made for supplying them with food. Ch'ien Ta-jên is to leave to-morrow, and Chao Ta-jên a few days later; in the meantime General Ma is collecting provisions and military stores at Ta-chien-lu and making preparations for the march westwards. To enable the necessary force to be got together troops are being collected from all parts of the province, and are also being withdrawn from places such as Ch'ien-wei, where they had been sent to quell local disturbances.

It is difficult to obtain any definite information as to the movements of Lien Yü, the newly-appointed Assistant Resident in Thibet, but it now seems probable that he will come to the capital to confer with the Viceroy and the Tartar General, and not leave for his post until some semblance of order has been restored in Litang and Batang.



It had been originally intended to place Batang in telegraphic communication with Ta-chien-lu during the present year, and material for that purpose had been collected at the latter place; further supplies of instruments, insulators, and telegraph wire are now being sent from here, and it is proposed to lay the line as the expedition advances.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HERBERT GOFFE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

*Extracts from Private Letter, dated Ta-chien-lu, April 21, 1905.*

IT seems that the Amban, Fong Ta-rên, has been trying to introduce reforms at Batang, and among these he wanted to reduce the number of lamas in the monastery. The Thibetans not only wanted none of his reforms, but did not want the Amban to stay at Batang at all, and asked him repeatedly to either return to Ta-chien-lu or go on to Thibet. Some of the Amban's troops were still at Ta-chien-lu, but these had just recently left for Batang, and are now remaining at Ho-keo (five days from here), afraid to proceed further.

It is said that matters were brought to open hostilities at Batang by Fong Ta-rên ordering his escort to fire on the Thibetans and lamas (who were beginning to throw stones), and one lama is said to have been killed.

The next we hear of is that Fong Ta-rên fled to the house of the Pao Chen, and then we hear that he was on his way to Ta-chien-lu, but had only got 10 *li* outside of Batang when he was surrounded, and he and all his escort were killed. They say his body was hacked to pieces and carried off.

Meantime the Thibetans had been killing some also in Batang itself; the whole family of the Pao Chen were killed, the local Chinese military official, some others, and also the French priests. But the local civil official has not been killed, for some reason or other, and has been told that if he will behave himself they will not harm him.

Another rumour says that of the three French priests one has disappeared, whether killed or not they cannot tell; the other two were bound and carried off by the Thibetans. This information has been brought in an official despatch from Litang, but all communication with Batang is stopped, and therefore only Thibetan reports of what has taken place are obtainable. It seems to be beyond doubt, however, that the Amban has been killed, and the people say that one of the French priests is certainly killed.

The Viceroy's instructions are said to be to get the Tai-ling affair settled first, before doing anything with the Batang trouble.

The Tai-ling news is rather conflicting: some say the people are afraid now of what they have done, and are blaming one another for bringing on the trouble; another report states that the local Chinese troops sent up near Tai-ling have been attacked and defeated and several killed; also that the Thibetan troops who had been made prisoners at Tai-ling are now released, and on their way back to Ta-chien-lu.

Including the troops which the Ti-tai brought up with him, there are about 1,000 troops in the city just now, and with the Amban's soldiers and the local braves 500 more might be added.

If the Chinese deal with this affair immediately and effectively the matter will soon pass over, but if they let it drag on I am afraid the trouble will spread and affect the whole border.

I do not think it will be possible to get any reliable details from Batang by this route, but probably the road viâ Atentsi and Yünnan will not be watched by the Thibetans.

The Chinese are watching events at Litang now; if anything happens to the official there, then they expect the Thibetans to come on to Ta-chien-lu.

The people say telegrams have been sent to Yünnan for 2,000 troops, also that the soldiers in the Kien Chang Valley are to be sent up here, but this is only rumour. The Ming Chen Si (or Ta-chien-lu Thibetan Chief) is still somewhere near Tai-ling.



*April 22.*—I got some more details last night of what took place at Batang, and the man through whom the information came is now on his way to Chengtu. He is one of Fong Ta-rên's escort, and was left at Litang, probably for forwarding, or some other purpose of that kind.

The man who told me is a merchant here. He is half Thibetan, I think, but anyhow he is well up in Thibetan customs and affairs, and is a personal friend of the Ta-chien-lu Chief. He began by saying: "It is difficult to know the hearts of these lamas: with their lips they appear to have submitted to the British in Thibet, but in their hearts they are still thinking of Russia," that "the Tsan-tui people have been scattering broadcast that Fong Ta-rên is really a 'Yang Kuan'—a friend of the British. Also that China and Britain are of one mind: that for Thibetans to go over to the British is like going over to China, and to remain under China is to put themselves under England," and then the undercurrent, "make friends with Russia."

This servant of Fong Ta-rên, hearing of such rumours, decided to inform his master of the danger he was in, but the Amban said it was childish talk, and would not listen to it.

On the 21st of the second moon (26th March) the trouble at Batang commenced. It was reported that some robbers were in hiding somewhere near, and Fong Ta-rên, or the Batang official—I do not know which—sent men to capture them if they were robbers. Eight mounted Thibetans were discovered, but they escaped and ran off to the lamasery and were received by the lamas, who said they were their (lamasery) people, and began throwing stones at the Amban's men: the men fired several shots at the lamas, killing one of them. After this, on the 25th (29th March), the lamas surrounded the Batang well, and refused to allow water to be drawn; then commenced some fighting between the two parties, and a number on either side were killed. Then, on the 28th (2nd April), the Batang military official was killed; the Amban had to flee to the Pao Chen's house, and from there he got to the Thibetan Chief's yamên, and the Thibetans wanted to kill him there, but the Chief said they must not kill him in his yamên.

They then got the Amban persuaded to leave for Ta-chien-lu, and on the morning of the 1st of the 3rd moon (5th April) he started off with what was left of his escort—over twenty men—and the "ulah," or transport. When they got to a small tower, about 10 *li* out of the city—I know the place well—they were surrounded and attacked by Thibetans. It so happened that the Amban's trumpeter was on ahead and had been allowed to pass, and when he heard the firing of guns he looked back and saw the Amban's chair being smashed to pieces and all his escort being killed. At this he ran as hard as he could towards Litang. When he got to a certain precipice he got into a cleft of the rock and decided to hide there till dark. After dark he started again, and next day hid in a thick forest; he then went to the "tang," or "official rest house," and got some food and told them all that had happened. The Thibetans discovered he was there and came and took him back again to Batang, and it is rumoured they have killed him—the only witness; but the people he told his story to have brought the news to Litang.

It is also rumoured that the Thibetans have kept the Batang official alive and are going to force him to write an official report of the whole affair, but, according to their dictation, this despatch will be examined by the Thibetan Chief at Batang and the carriers to be supplied by the Thibetans themselves.

All seem to agree that the lamas are at the bottom of this whole affair, and they are incensed at Fong Ta-rên because he said the lamas were nearly all immoral, because he wanted to reduce their numbers by making all under 30 years of age grow their hair and marry, also because he had given to the French priests a piece of land—waste—to open up for cultivation.

When Fong Ta-rên was here in Ta-chien-lu he spoke to several, and to the Thibetan Chief, on the merits of England, and it is supposed that some Thibetan or lama here had sent on this information to Tsan-tui.

It may be that there is still a Russian spy here, but I have so far not found any trace of one since the last one died last year.



No. 57.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received July 17.)*

(No. 136.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, July 17, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to refer your Lordship to my despatches Nos. 180 and 181 respecting disturbances in Eastern Thibet, in answer to your telegram No. 110.

According to the latest information I have received, order has not been re-established. If I were to warn the Wai-wu Pu, they would refuse to be made responsible for the party's safety. The neighbourhood of Batang and Tachienlu is, I consider, unsafe at the present.

No. 58.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, July 18, 1905.*

I AM directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to state, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, that he has been in communication with His Majesty's Minister at Peking with regard to the proposed return of Mr. Wilton to China through Thibet, which formed the subject of your letter of the 14th instant.

I am to transmit to you the accompanying copy of Sir E. Satow's reply,\* from which you will see that, according to his most recent information, order has not been re-established on the Thibetan frontier of China, and that the Wai-wu Pu, if consulted in the matter, would, in his opinion, disclaim responsibility for the safety of the expedition.

I am also to inclose the accompanying copies of recent despatches from Sir E. Satow,† reporting that the disturbances continue in Litang and Batang, and that the provincial authorities have so far not succeeded in suppressing them.

I am to suggest, for Mr. Secretary Brodrick's consideration, that in view of the information contained in this correspondence, and of the opinion expressed by Sir E. Satow in his telegram, Mr. Wilton's journey should not be undertaken.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) F. H. VILLIERS.

No. 59.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 21.)*

Sir,

*India Office, July 19, 1905.*

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Campbell's letter of the 10th instant, relative to the negotiations with regard to the Thibetan Treaty.

In reply, I am to request that you will draw the attention of the Marquess of Lansdowne to the Viceroy's telegram of the 10th July, in which the suggestion is made that, while refusing to consent to the transfer of the negotiations from Calcutta, Sir E. Satow should endeavour to persuade the Chinese Government to instruct their Commissioner to accept the arrangement offered by the Government of India, and, failing such acceptance, should state definitely that His Majesty's Government would prefer to dispense with the adherence of China, and to rely upon their Agreement with Thibet.

The views of the Government of India are apparently in accordance with those of Sir E. Satow, who points out that the change of venue of the negotiations would, in the circumstances, seriously impair the prestige of the Government of India, and who contemplates that Commissioner Tang should remain at Calcutta pending the result of

\* No. 57.

† Nos. 55 and 56.



the resumption of the communications between his Excellency and Prince Ching which were broken off in October last.

Mr. Brodrick is disposed to concur in these views, and he would suggest that Sir E. Satow might be instructed accordingly.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) A. GODLEY.

No. 60.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.*—(Received July 22.)

(No. 138.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, July 22, 1905.*

PLEASE refer to my telegram No. 129 on the subject of the negotiations respecting Thibet.

Prince Ch'ing is sure to take an early opportunity to ask me "my private opinion" regarding the course to be followed in the future conduct of the negotiations. It would therefore be useful if I were in a position to send him an answer.

(Repeated to India.)

No. 61.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 112.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, July 23, 1905.*

WITH regard to the Thibet Adhesion Agreement (*vide* your telegram No. 129 of the 6th July, 1905), you should endeavour to induce the Chinese Government to accept the arrangement proposed by the Government of India, and to instruct Tang to this effect. In the meantime we agree that he should remain at Calcutta.

Should the Chinese Government not be prepared to accept the arrangement, you should definitely state that we are not disposed to make any modification in its terms, and that we should deem it preferable to rely upon our Agreement with Thibet, dispensing altogether with the adherence of China.

No. 62.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.*—(Received July 31.)

(No. 195.)

My Lord,

*Peking, June 9, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, in continuation of my despatch No. 184 of the 30th ultimo, copy of a despatch which I have received from the Acting British Consul-General at Chengtu, giving further information respecting the recent disturbances on the Thibetan border.

A copy of Mr. Goffe's despatch has also been sent to the Viceroy of India.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 62.

*Acting Consul-General Goffe to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 18. Confidential.)

Sir,

*Chengtu, May 12, 1905.*

IN continuation of my despatch No. 16 of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to report that Lien Yü, the newly-appointed Assistant Resident in Thibet, arrived here on the 7th instant from Ya-Chou Fu, and is expected to remain in the city until the middle of the 6th moon. His Excellency, in his interviews with the Viceroy, is reported to have strongly deprecated the dispatch of troops to avenge the murder of



Fêng ta-jên, and to have urged the opening of negotiations with the local Chiefs for the surrender of the murderers.

I am informed on good authority that the Viceroy recently received a report from the Chinese official at Batang stating that the local tribes had no intention of rebelling against the Chinese Government, and that Fêng ta-jên had brought his death upon himself by his harsh and unpopular measures. The report went on to say that the Chiefs were prepared to settle the matter amicably, and to deliver up the murderers to the Chinese authorities; but that if troops were sent to inflict punishment on the district a general rising of the tribes would result.

It is probable that this document, if it is authentic—and there is good ground for believing that it is—has been dictated by the Thibetans and reflects Thibetan views. In the extracts from a private letter inclosed in my despatch No. 16 mention is made of a rumour that the Thibetans had kept the Batang official alive, and intended to use him as a channel of communication between the Viceroy and themselves.

Ch'ien ta-jên left here on the 4th instant, and is due at Ta-chien-lu to-morrow; but Chao ta-jên's departure has been delayed owing to the difficulty experienced in getting together the necessary troops.

I have the honour to inclose herewith further extracts from a private letter from Ta-chien-lu, which reached me this morning.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HERBERT GOFFE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 62.

*Extracts from Private Letter dated "Ta-chien-lu, May 3, 1905."*

SINCE my last letter there have occasionally been exciting rumours about an attack on Ta-chien-lu, &c., but these have all disappeared as mysteriously as they came, and when we get down to probable facts, there is not much to report in the way of developments.

So far as can be ascertained, the information given in my first telegram still holds good. A despatch from the Batang official confirms the report of the Amban's death, but adds that the bodies are lying in a temple at Batang. To-day I heard that two letters (of red paper) had been received, one from the abbot of the monastery and the other from the Chief at Batang, stating that what incensed the Thibetans was—

1. The opening up of the waste land round Batang and the settling of Chinese on that land.
2. The Amban's attempt to reduce the number of lamas in the monastery.
3. The enlisting of Thibetans as soldiers, and teaching them foreign drill.

I believe the above is probably as near the truth—the surface reasons—as the officials will ever get, and I think Fêng ta-jên was on the right track to get this territory under Chinese control. What has happened only shows the slight hold China has on all the territory west of Ta-chien-lu. Fêng's mistakes may be that he was driving his reforms too fast, and that he considered Chinese authority in these parts greater than it really is, and that he did not plan sufficiently for his own protection. But behind all, I think this is the outcome of a growing discontent among the tribes, and an increasing want of confidence in the Chinese Government and their officials, and if China does not deal firmly with these people and treat them fairly, she may soon be confronted with a general rising of the whole border.

The British occupation of Lhassa, and Russian intrigue in the past, and probably also the present, are likely also partly responsible for the present trouble. It is generally believed here that China will now take over all this territory as far as Batang, to be under direct Chinese control, and this, I think, must come sooner or later; but the task of settling Chinese in this territory will be no light one, especially with Chinese methods.

From our standpoint, as missionaries, it will unsettle this territory to such an extent that we might as well retire from it for two or three years, as far as the advance of our work is concerned. But on the other hand, if certain methods were adopted, I think the whole territory might be brought under control without much bloodshed or unsettling of the people, and in this we might become actors in the drama in teaching and encouraging industrial work.

The Chinese at Tai-ling have now been in possession of the monastery there



for some days. We hear there are lots of spoil in the monastery, but the Ti-tai has forbidden the soldiers to plunder. The Ta-chien-lu official is now there and the Ming-chen-si; they will be discussing conditions for a peaceful settlement and end up of the trouble. We hear that some 800 horsemen of the Tsan-tui tribe were on their way down to resist the Thibetans at Tai-ling; they are said to be somewhere between Dawo and Tai-ling. The first of the Chengtu reinforcements arrived to-day. One of our members, who has a shop at Litang, received letters to-day informing him that several hundred of the Tsan-tui tribe had arrived there, and were inquiring for all those who had joined the foreigners' religion. Luckily, all his men had already left Litang, and are now safe in Ta-chien-lu.

There is no doubt this movement is anti-foreign as well as anti-Chinese. It seems still to be generally believed that four French priests have been killed at Batang. As you say, it is unfortunate that our men have got mixed up in this Tai-ling affair, and though it is only as individuals, yet in the minds of the Thibetans I expect we are all implicated. Three of our men are specially marked out for Thibetan revenge. They were to start the gold mines at Tai-ling, and now they have charge of the transport of rice for the troops there. The official has seemingly chosen them as the most trustworthy, but it is unfortunate for the men themselves, and also for our influence and work here. It may give us a political standing which is contrary to our principles.

## No. 63.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received July 31.)*

(No. 211.)

My Lord,

*Peking, June 14, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, in continuation of my despatch No. 195 of the 9th instant, copy of a further despatch which I have received from the Acting British Consul-General at Chengtu on the subject of the disturbances on the Thibetan border.

I am forwarding a copy of Mr. Goffe's despatch to the Viceroy of India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

## Inclosure in No. 63.

*Acting Consul-General Goffe to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 21.)

Sir,

*Chengtu, May 24, 1905.*

WITH reference to my previous despatches on the subject of the recent disturbances in Litang and Batang, I have the honour to report that all communication with those two districts is now cut off, and the Chinese authorities profess to be entirely ignorant of what is happening west of Ho K'ou Ferry, on the borders of Litang and Tachienlu. General Ma is still at Tachienlu, and Ch'ien Tajen, whose departure was reported in my despatch No. 18, is said to have got no further than Ya-chou Fu. No date has, so far as I can learn, been fixed for Chao Tajen's departure, and it is doubtful whether he will go at all, as the authorities here are still hoping for a peaceful settlement of the difficulty.

The French Consul informed me recently that he had postponed his departure for Tachienlu, as he did not think his presence there would serve any useful purpose until he received some definite information as to the fate of the French Fathers, of which he saw little prospect at present.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERBERT GOFFE.



## No. 64.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 31.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 29th July, respecting affairs at Lhasa.

*India Office, July 31, 1905.*


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Inclosure in No. 64.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

Telegraphic.) P.

*July 29, 1905.*

BRITISH Trade Agent at Gyantse telegraphs the 26th instant as follows (see my telegram of the 10th July):—

"Tashi Lama writes in a letter just received that he has received trustworthy news of the presence at Lhasa of one Russian in disguise. Nepalese traders from Lhasa, who reached Gyantse on the 25th instant, also bring similar information, and corroborate that given by Japanese traveller respecting the details of the party, which they report departed from Lhasa about a fortnight ago on return journey. Various informants estimate number of Russians with party from three to one, but it is agreed by all that leader, who is tall, with a long beard, is without doubt a foreigner, and probably a Russian. The presence of such foreigners at Lhasa must be well known to the Thibetan authorities. I have dispatched a Special Agent to Lhasa, in order to secure, if possible, letters or any scraps of writing which the party may have left behind."

(Repeated to His Majesty's Minister, Peking.)

## No. 65.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received August 3.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 21st July, relative to Mr. Wilton's proposed journey from India to China via Thibet.

*India Office, August 3, 1905.*


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Inclosure in No. 65.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

Telegraphic.) P.

*India Office, July 21, 1905.*

THIBET. Your telegram of the 13th instant.

His Majesty's Government are of opinion that Wilton's journey should not be undertaken, in view of the fact that Sir E. Satow reports that Batang and Tachien-lu are unsafe, order not having yet been restored in Eastern Thibet, and that responsibility for the party's safety would be disclaimed by Chinese Government.

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No. 66.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received August 4.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 3rd August, relative to the attitude of the Lhasa Government.

*India Office, August 4, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 66.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*August 3, 1905.*

THIBET. We have received following message from O'Connor:—

“Letter from Lhasa Government couched in strong, and almost threatening terms has just reached me.

“They say, in reiterating complaint about our action in Chumbi, that a promise was given by General Macdonald as to the Phari Jongpen's exercise of full powers as in past, and reproach us with a breach of faith calculated to interrupt friendly relations.

“They refuse, practically, to grant Wilton a passport.

“They complain of the line of telegraph to Gyantse, and request that it may be removed. They add that disturbances may follow if the above-mentioned causes of difference are not satisfactorily adjusted. Hostility is implied in the word translated above as ‘disturbance.’ Since we left Tuna such term has not to my knowledge been employed. While I do not take their threats seriously, the tone of their letter is significant, having regard to recent news from Lhasa. As regards first and third points, I venture to recommend a plainly worded reply, and that request for passport for Wilton be renewed.

“I am sending by post translation of letter.”

As soon as we receive text of Lhasa letter we will telegraph our views.

(Repeated to Peking.)

No. 67.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received August 4.)*

(No. 143.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, August 4, 1905.*

THIBET. I have to-day sent the following telegram to India:—

“This afternoon I had a conversation with Natung. I told him it would be useless to transfer the negotiations either here or to London; but I did not consider it necessary yet to say that in default of the arrangements suggested by the Indian Government, His Majesty's Government would prefer to do without any Agreement with China.

“I reminded Natung that it was the suggestion of the Chinese Government that their envoy should be sent to Calcutta; the Indian Government had been compelled to take things into their own hands because the Thibetans had refused to recognize that the former Agreements had binding force and they had ignored the authority of the Government of Peking; it was not possible to revert to the state of things which existed before the Lhasa Convention had been concluded.

“I then inquired what the points were on which the two Plenipotentiaries differed, and he spoke of the dispute as to which of the two terms ‘sovereignty’ or ‘suzerainty’ was to be used. The other points he appeared not to remember; perhaps he thought them of little importance. He added that Tang was very ill and was very desirous of coming away.



"I said that I thought 'suzerainty' was the proper word. Natung then proceeded to tell me that Tang had telegraphed proposing to omit the Article in which the disputed word occurs, and said he thought it would be a good way of avoiding the difficulty. If I agreed with this view he would telegraph to Tang in this sense, instructing him to stay another week and come to an agreement, if he could, with regard to the remainder of the text.

"I replied that the Indian Government had proposed the Article in question in order to leave no doubt that China was suzerain, but I thought there would be no difficulty if China preferred to omit it. I undertook to telegraph to you the preceding paragraph at his request."

No. 68.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received August 6.)*

(No. 145.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, August 6, 1905.*

HIS Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Chengtu telegraphed to me yesterday as follows:—

"The Thibetans have suffered a reverse near the Batang frontier, and the Commander-in-chief is now at Batang.

"I have received a telegram from Moyes, informing me that, in his opinion, this is a correct report."

(Repeated to India.)

No. 69.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received August 8.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 6th July, relative to the development of trade with, and opening up of trade routes to, Thibet.

Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

*India Office, August 8, 1905.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 69.

*Government of United Provinces to Government of India.*

*Naini Tal, May 29, 1905.*

IN paragraph 3 of this Government's letter dated the 10th May, 1905, regarding the opening up of trade routes to Western Thibet, it was said that the Lieutenant-Governor approved the proposal made by Mr. Sherring to informally exchange courtesies with the border officials. I am now directed to submit, for the consideration of the Government of India, more detailed proposals for a visit by Mr. Sherring to Taklakot and Gyanema this summer.

2. Mr. Sherring would enter Thibet by the Lipu Lekh Pass, and reach Taklakot about the middle of July, and it would be desirable that the Trade Agent, Jai Chand, should come down from Gartok so as to reach Taklakot a few days before Mr. Sherring's arrival, so as to prepare the local Thibetan officials for his visit.

3. If, after meeting the Thibetan officials, Mr. Sherring considers there is no objection to this course, and if the suggestion meets with the approval of the Government of India, it is proposed that he should, on his way to Gyanema, visit Mansorowar and Kailas, where a "Kumbh mela" will be held in July, which is usually attended by several hundred pilgrims from India. From Gyanema the return journey would be made over the Unta Dhura Pass.



4. This tour, if approved by the Government of India, would give Mr. Sherring an opportunity of inquiring and reporting to this Government as to the measures required for developing the trade and pilgrim traffic between the United Provinces and Western Thibet. On several occasions recently the Lieutenant-Governor has had to refrain from making any definite recommendations to the Government of India, owing to the absence of any information as to the attitude of the Thibetan officials near the border of these provinces.

5. Mr. Sherring would inquire generally as to the existing obstacles to the development of trade with Taklakot, Gyanema, and Gartok, and would discuss with the Thibetan officials how these can be removed and how Gyanema and Taklakot can best be opened to traders without recourse to a formal Agreement. In visiting Mansorowar and Kailas, Mr. Sherring would have an opportunity of ascertaining on the spot and from the pilgrims themselves the extent of their difficulties, and could discuss with the officials how these difficulties could best be removed and how the pilgrim traffic could best be encouraged.

6. It is proposed that Mr. Sherring should be accompanied by the Tahsildar of Almora, Kharak Singh Pal, as he knows the country and is respected by the Thibetans.

7. Though it is not desirable that Mr. Sherring should be accompanied by a large escort, which might create a feeling of alarm and so defeat the object of his visit, yet it is necessary that his camp should be protected against the numerous armed robbers which are known to exist in this part of the country; and the Lieutenant-Governor would therefore recommend, for the consideration of the Government of India, that Mr. Sherring should be accompanied by an escort of thirty Gurkhas under a native officer. This, with the escort of twenty men allowed to the Trade Agent, would seem to be sufficient.

8. Mr. Sherring has also suggested that permission should be given to Dr. Longstaff to accompany him. This gentleman is now in the Almora district, climbing some of the higher mountains; but in July and August rain would interfere with his operations, and it is believed that he would gladly avail himself of the opportunity of visiting Thibet. Dr. Longstaff is, as his Excellency the Viceroy is aware, a member of the Alpine Club, Fellow of the Geographical, Meteorological, and Zoological Societies, and a member of the Royal Institution and British Association. His services as a doctor would be of benefit to the party and add to their popularity among the Thibetans.

9. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that Mr. Sherring should be allowed to make presents to the Thibetan officials in the event of their offering presents to him, and that a maximum of 700 rupees might be allowed for this purpose.

10. If these proposals meet with the approval of the Government of India, I am to ask that this approval, with any further instructions that may be deemed necessary, more especially in connection with the points raised in the inclosure to my letter dated the 10th instant, may be communicated at an early date, as Mr. Sherring would then leave Almora on the 23rd June, and will need some time to arrange for the carriage that he will require.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 69.

*Government of India to Government of the United Provinces.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Simla, June 5, 1905.*

YOUR letter dated the 29th May, 1905.

Government of India are doubtful whether there is need for large escort proposed. Jai Chand has no escort whatever; and Rawlings on march from Gyantse to Gartok had only five Gurkhas besides ordinary camp followers.

Deputy Commissioner should doubtless visit Thibet in greater style, but is it necessary for him to take more than police guard which would ordinarily accompany him while touring in his own district?



## Inclosure 3 in No. 69.

*Government of India to Thakur Jai Chand.**Simla, June 7, 1905.*

IN continuation of my letter dated the 20th May, 1905, I am directed to inform you that it is proposed that Mr. Sherring, Deputy Commissioner of Almora, should visit Gyanema and Taklakot during the fair season, and to request that, on receipt of this letter, you will arrange to go to these places in order to meet Mr. Sherring and discuss with him and with the local Thibetan officials the best means of opening up trade and promoting general intercourse with India.

(Indorsed by the Government of India, Foreign Department.)

A copy of the foregoing letter is forwarded to the Government of the United Provinces for information, in continuation of the telegram from the Government of India in the Foreign Department, dated the 5th June, 1905.

*Simla, June 28, 1905.*

## Inclosure 4 in No. 69.

*Government of United Provinces to Government of India.*

(Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

*Naini Tal, June 7, 1905.*

YOUR Secret telegram of the 5th June.

Lieutenant-Governor accepts suggestion made by the Government of India that Gurkha escort is not necessary, and will provide small police guard to protect camp.

## Inclosure 5 in No. 69.

*Government of India to Government of United Provinces.*

(Confidential.)

Sir,

*Simla, June 19, 1905.*

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with your telegram, dated the 7th June, 1905, I am directed to inform you that the Government of India approve of the proposal that Mr. Sherring, Deputy Commissioner, Almora, should visit Gyanema and Taklakot this summer, and consider the route suggested in paragraph 3 of your letter dated the 29th May, 1905, to be suitable. Mr. Sherring may take a small police guard with him, and Dr. Longstaff and Kharak Singh Pal, Tehsildar of Almora, may also accompany the party. Presents may be made to the Thibetans up to a maximum of 700 rupees, in the event of their offering presents to Mr. Sherring.

2. With reference to the points mentioned in paragraph 2 of Mr. Sherring's letter dated the 22nd April, 1905, I am to forward a copy of each of the marginally noted papers,\* and to communicate the following remarks for the information of the United Provinces Government:—

(1.) The Convention allows free right of access to Gyantse, and it is inadmissible for the Thibetan officials to prohibit such access from Almora. Whether on general grounds it is advisable that traders should be encouraged to travel by the direct route from Almora to Gyantse is a matter on which the Government of India will be glad to receive Mr. Sherring's advice.

(2.) As regards the Trade Regulations of 1893, I am to explain that no Tariff was ever agreed upon as contemplated by Article IV.

\* 1. Convention between Great Britain and Thibet, dated September 7, 1904, with attached declaration.

2. Regulations applicable to the trade mart at Yatung, 1893.

3. Draft of the proposed Thibet Trade Regulations.



Under Article III of the Convention, the Thibetan Government undertook to appoint fully authorized Delegates to negotiate with Representatives of the British Government as to the details of the amendments required in the Regulations of 1893. No such Delegates have been appointed as yet, and further consideration of the question has been deferred pending the conclusion of the negotiations with the Chinese Commissioner, Tang Tachen, on the subject of the adherence of China to the Thibetan Convention. For the same reason, the final revision of the draft of the proposed new Trade Regulations has been postponed for the present, but it is probable that the main Articles will ultimately be adopted as a basis for negotiation in the form in which they now appear in the draft. In the meanwhile, under existing Agreements, no import duties are leviable on goods entering Thibet, and no restrictions can be placed upon the free importation of tea.

(3.) The question of the dues now levied by the Thibetans on the Bhotias trading at Taklakot and Gyanema is one on which the Government of India will be glad to receive a detailed report, with an expression of Mr. Sherring's opinion as to the course of action which may best be adopted. It should, however, be explained to Mr. Sherring that neither Gyanema nor Taklakot are marts to which we have a right at present to claim access for British subjects under Article II of the Convention. On the other hand, access to the Treaty mart at Gartok by the Lipu Lekh road can be claimed; and as soon as this right is exercised and friendly relations are established with the local officials *en route*, it is improbable that any objection will be raised to merchants turning aside to trade at Gyanema, Taklakot, or any other neighbouring place. If objections are raised, it may conceivably become necessary at some future date to call upon the Thibetan Government to establish fresh trade marts at Gyanema and Taklakot under Article II of the Convention.

(4.) In accordance with the terms of the Treaty, the Thibetans are under an obligation to maintain the roads to Gyantse and Gartok in a suitable state of repair. To press them to do so at once, however, would endanger the prospects of establishing the friendly relations which we desire, and the matter may be allowed to stand over for the present. Moreover, in the opinion of the Government of India, it would be straining Article V of the Convention to require the Thibetans to repair mountain roads on the frontier, which are not the nearest routes to Gyantse or Gartok.

(5.) The Government of India agree that Mr. Sherring's inquiries should follow the lines indicated in paragraph 5 of Mr. Winter's letter, dated the 29th May, 1905, but they desire that he should be made to understand clearly that trade with Gyanema and Taklakot can only be developed incidentally, on the ground that these marts are halting-places on the road to Gartok.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. E. HOLLAND,  
*Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.*

No. 70.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received August 9.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 8th August, relative to the negotiations with China on the subject of the Thibet Treaty.

*India Office, August 9, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 70.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*August 8, 1905.*

THIBET Treaty. Please refer to the telegram of the 4th August from His Majesty's Minister at Peking.

Omission of Article I will leave room for China at some future date to revive her claim to sovereignty over Thibet, and for this reason we have always regarded the Article in question as an important one. If, however, further insistence would, in



Sir E. Satow's opinion, cause negotiations to be abandoned, we attach sufficient importance to the adhesion of China, in present state of politics at Lhasa, to waive our objection, provided the Chinese Government accept without alteration the remaining Articles.

(Repeated to Peking.)

No. 71.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir C. Hardinge.*

(No. 236.)

Sir,

*Foreign Office, August 9, 1905.*

THE Russian Ambassador made to me to-day a statement to the following effect:—

Trustworthy information had reached the Russian Government showing that the state of affairs in Southern Thibet was not altogether in accordance with the statements which I had made on the subject last year, especially in regard to the intention of Great Britain not to seek any privileges in that country, and to allow Thibet to belong, as heretofore, to the Thibetans.

His Excellency added that the measures reported to the Russian Government had apparently given rise to considerable agitation among the Thibetans.

The reports stated that British garrisons had been established at three places south of Lhasa, viz., Gyantse, Chumbi, and Pari; that a railway and a telegraph and telephone line starting from Darjeeling had been constructed in the Chumbi Valley; and that the British authorities were erecting permanent buildings, establishing depôts, drilling native soldiers, and encouraging the settlement of British subjects in the whole of the district in question.

I told his Excellency that I would inquire into the facts, but that I felt sure that the Government of India were taking no action inconsistent with their Treaty obligations.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) LANSDOWNE.

No. 72.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received August 14.)*

(No. 220.)

My Lord,

*Peking, June 23, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith, in continuation of my despatch No. 211 of the 14th instant, copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Chengtu, on the subject of the Thibetan border disturbances.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

Inclosure in No. 72.

*Acting Consul-General Goffe to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 25.)

Sir,

*Chengtu, May 31, 1905.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 22 of the 25th instant, I have the honour to report that Chao Ta-jên left here on the 27th instant for Ya-chou Fu, where he will take over the seals of the Chien Ch'ang Taotaiship, proceeding thence to Ta-chien-lu; Ch'ien Ta-jên has already reached the latter place, while General Ma is said to be in the neighbourhood of Ho-k'ou Ferry.

Chao Ta-jên took with him merely a personal escort of some forty men, but he is instructed to enlist two ying (nominally 1,000 men) *en route*. Some time ago it was announced that an army of 5,000 men would take the field by August or September of this year, but it is highly improbable that anything like this figure will be reached, for the simple reason that the authorities have not the troops at their disposal.



The roads between Thibet and Szechuan are all held by the tribesmen, and only approved couriers are allowed to pass; despatches were received here a few days ago from Lhasa, but no communications from the East are allowed to enter Litang or Batang.

The Viceroy recently received a petition from the local Chiefs (t'u ssü), stating that the Assistant Resident, at the time of his death, had with him some hundred odd men, seventy of whom were killed, while the remainder, including Fêng Ta-jen's nephew and several secretaries, are in the hands of the tribesmen, and are being kindly treated. After complaining of the various unpopular changes introduced by Fêng which had incensed the people beyond measure, the Chiefs proceeded to repudiate any intention of throwing off their allegiance to China; but they warned the Viceroy that any dispatch of troops to Litang and Batang would exasperate the people and provoke a general rebellion.

So far no answer has been returned to this petition; but some time ago the Viceroy issued a proclamation to the tribesmen promising not to inflict punishment on the whole district provided the principal offenders were handed over to the Chinese authorities.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HERBERT GOFFE.

No. 73.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, August 15, 1905.*

I AM directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to transmit to you, to be laid before the Secretary of State for India, a copy of a despatch which has been addressed to His Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg with regard to the state of affairs in Thibet.\*

You will observe that the Russian Government allege that His Majesty's Government have adopted measures in that country which are not altogether in accordance with the statements made by Lord Lansdowne on the subject last year.

Lord Lansdowne will be glad to be favoured with any observations which Mr. Secretary Brodrick may wish to offer on the statements made by the Russian Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

No. 74.

*Consul-General Wilkinson to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received August 21.)*

(No. 16.)

My Lord,

*Yünnan-fu, June 30, 1905.*

REFERRING to my despatch No. 10 of the 3rd ultimo, I have the honour to inclose translation of a Report by the Acting Brigadier-General in Wei-hsi to this Government, embodying the account of eye-witnesses of the disturbances at Bat'ang in April last that culminated in the murder of Feng (Amban) and Pères Mussot and Soulié. The Report was courteously communicated to me by the Governor-General immediately on its receipt.

I am forwarding a copy of my translation both to His Majesty's Minister and to Burmah.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. H. WILKINSON.



## Inclosure in No. 74.

*Report by Yang Chien-hsun, Commandant of the Chen-pei Ying, on the Circumstances of the Bat'ang Émeute, dated May 16, 1905.*

(Translation.)

THE Commandant reported on the 11th instant the steps taken in pursuance of the repeated orders he had received. He has since succeeded in finding out the facts of the rising of the lamas and aborigines at Bat'ang.

The story told by certain traders of Atuntzu who have returned from Bat'ang is as follows:—

In February last an official, who had been sent in charge of Imperial gifts to High Commissioner (Amban) Feng, was returning to Peking when he was forcibly robbed at Ba-kung-si, a place 30 *li* from Bat'ang. The official went back to make his complaint, whereupon Feng (Ta-jên) ordered the commandant of the Bat'ang battalion, Lo Chin-pao, and his second in command, Kuo-tsung-cha-pao (both Thibetans), to arrest the robbers, who must be taken without fail. The two officers also gave strict orders to those in charge of the locality to effect the arrest. Thereupon the villagers of the Upper Ch'i-ching, at various distances from Bat'ang, held meetings one after the other, and on the 21st March a great crowd assembled within 10 *li* of Bat'ang, declaring that the residence of a High Commissioner (Amban) at Bat'ang was not according to rule. Hitherto the Ambans had merely passed through, spending three days there; the person now residing at Bat'ang was clearly a foreign Amban, and so on. Communication by water was cut off, and on the evening of the 2nd April the aborigines, in collusion with the lama brigands of the Ting-lin Monastery, surrounded Bat'ang. On this evening the Mission chapel was burnt down and Père Mussot, who had fled to the border of the Chu-pa-ri River, was murdered; the spot is 80 *li* from Bat'ang. The foreign missionary, too, at A-hai-kung (Yarragong), Père Soulié, was subsequently murdered; this place is three stages from Bat'ang.

The Amban's Yamên was also surrounded. This Yamên was formerly the Yamên of the Commissariat Officer, which the Amban was occupying temporarily, the Commissariat Officer having removed elsewhere. On the early morning of the 3rd April the numbers of the lamas and aborigines had largely increased, and the General in command, Wu Yi-chung, was shot dead in the main hall of the Yamên. The Amban, his Excellency Feng, the Commandant-in-chief Li Chia-jui, and the bodyguard under their orders, escaped through the back gate, scattering rupees. The aborigines struggling together to pick up the rupees, the besieged got away to Commandant Lo's place. The guard of 100 aborigines belonging to the Amban, who were foreign-drilled and armed with repeating rifles, when they heard of the revolt, all mutinied.

On this day the lamas and aborigines, half of them surrounded Commandant Lo's place, and half sought out the converts. These last, whether Chinese or aborigines, were all murdered. The lamas and aborigines pretended to urge Commandant Lo, saying, "Give up to us at once the Amban and all Government soldiers; otherwise we will set fire to you on four sides." Now, all this was a ruse concocted between the lamas, the aborigines, and the Commandant. Commandant Lo pretended to persuade the rioters to withdraw, on which the Amban would proceed to Ch'engt'u, and would cease to reside at Bat'ang. Meanwhile he persuaded the Amban to start at once; if he delayed there was fear of further disturbances. Both parties would make an agreement, and to this the rioters pretended to consent. About 4 A.M. on the 4th April they removed their palissades and withdrew. The Amban and his party started at 6 A.M., and the people of the camp came to see him off. When he got to Jeh-shui-t'ang, 5 *li* from Bat'ang, where the road is narrow, a precipice above and the river below, the rioters had prepared beforehand an ambushade in front and rear. The Amban, arriving here, was stopped in front by from 500 to 600 men, while a like number pressed on him from behind. The troops with Amban Feng and Commandant Lo numbered seventy-three. Of these three only escaped; the rest were killed. The 200 or 300 repeating rifles which the Amban had with him, and four or five mule loads of cartridges, all were taken by the insurgents.

There was a nephew of his Excellency, who had been wounded on the 24th March in the head, and who was being nursed at Commandant Lo's, and so escaped being killed. After the murder of the Amban and the rest, Commandant Lo handed over the things the Amban had with him, together with his Excellency's nephew, to the Ting-lin Monastery. The sergeants of the Commissariat Officer were not killed, the insurgents



saying that these two men were properly resident at Bat'ang, and they would not venture to do them further hurt.

The insurgents dispersed gradually after the 5th April. In each village two Headmen were elected, with two attendant, apiece, and if anything occurred the deputies, with their attendants, would go about everywhere giving the alarm. The Ting-lin Monastery also elected twenty-four Headmen, but these, at Bat'ang and elsewhere, remained in their monastery. At present Bat'ang is held by about 100 of the aborigines.

The traders in question, on the 26th April, asked for road passes from the Ting-lin Monastery, and Commandants Lo and Kuo, to get to Atuntzu. While these traders were at Bat'ang, they heard that three foreign missionaries at the Salt Wells had been captured by men earlier sent for the purpose. Lately six men, who came specially from Bat'ang, have accompanied these traders to the Salt Wells to inquire into this matter. As regards the shooting of one of the aborigines by the local guard at Atuntzu, nothing was known at Bat'ang.

The Commandant, having ascertained the above facts, has the honour to submit them for consideration.

May 16, 1905.

No. 75.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received August 21.)*

Sir,

*India Office, August 18, 1905.*

WITH reference to Sir E. Satow's telegram No. 143 of the 4th instant on the subject of the negotiations for the adhesion of China to the Thibet Convention, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to request that you will draw the attention of the Marquess of Lansdowne to the Viceroy's telegram of the 8th instant on the subject.

Mr. Brodrick agrees with the Government of India that if Sir E. Satow is of opinion that insistence on Article I of the draft Convention would cause the abandonment of the negotiations it would be preferable to omit it, on the condition that the remaining Articles are accepted by the Chinese Government without alteration.

I am, &c.

(Signed) A. GODLEY.

No. 76.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received August 21.)*

(No. 156.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, August 21, 1905.*

PLEASE refer to the telegram from Viceroy of India to Secretary of State for India of the 8th instant and my telegram to your Lordship No. 143 on the subject of Thibet.

Natung has twice asked me whether I have received any answer from His Majesty's Government.

Does your Lordship wish me to communicate anything to him?

No. 77.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 123.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, August 22, 1905.*

I HAVE considered in communication with the Secretary of State for India your telegram No. 143 of the 14th instant, respecting the Thibetan Treaty.

Mr. Brodrick concurs in the opinion of the Government of India that it would be preferable to omit Article I of the draft Convention if you think that the negotiations would be abandoned were we to insist on it. This concession, however, should only be made on the condition that the Chinese Government accept without alteration the remaining Articles.



No. 78.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received August 28.)*

(No. 237.)

My Lord,

Peking, July 6, 1905.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith, with reference to my despatch No. 220 of the 23rd ultimo, copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Chengtu regarding a memorial published in the "Official Gazette" on the subject of the murder of the Chinese Assistant Resident in Thibet.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

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Inclosure in No. 78.

✓  
*Acting Consul-General Goffe to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 29.)

Sir,

Chengtu, June 10, 1905.

I HAVE the honour to report that in the "Official Gazette," published a few days ago, appears a joint Memorial from the Tartar General and the Viceroy reporting the circumstances under which the late Assistant Resident in Thibet met his death in Litang.

The Memorial states that Feng recognized that unless the power of the Lamas, who had absolute control of the tribesmen, was reduced, there was certain to be serious opposition to the measures of reform he proposed to introduce. He accordingly requested that the old law limiting the number of priests should be put in force, and he further proposed that for a space of twenty years no one should be allowed to enter the priesthood. The Lamas resented this, and spread reports that Feng's troops wore foreign dress and were drilled in the foreign fashion; they also represented that the changes he wished to introduce were solely in the interests of foreigners. His protection of the missionaries was adduced as a further proof of his partiality towards foreigners.

The reclamation works at Batang were not on a large scale, and the Commissary has been engaged on them for over a year without any objection having been raised. When Feng, however, attempted to extend the sphere of operations he met with strong opposition, and troops had to be sent to preserve order. As these troops were passing the gate of the Ting Ling Ssu they were fired on by the Lamas and some of them wounded. This happened on the 26th March.

On the 2nd April the Mission was destroyed, and the troops protecting it were driven off, some of them being killed. A military official and one of Feng's suite met their death in this affair, and the Commissary's yamen was looted. The mob were clamorous and excited, and refused to disperse.

The following day the Lamas and Chiefs went to interview Feng, and requested him to move his residence to Litang, so as to avoid giving the tribesmen any pretext for creating a disturbance. They also provided the necessary transport for his journey. Owing to the difficulty of provisioning the troops they had been left at Ta Chien Lu, and Feng had with him merely a small personal escort, half of whom had been already killed. He was therefore not in a position to resist these demands; but he proposed to send for reinforcements to meet him at Litang, whence he would undertake punitive measures. On the 5th April, however, when he reached Hung Ting Tzu, he and his suite were killed by Thibetans, who had lain concealed at that point.

The Viceroy lays stress on the necessity of a display of military force with a view to overawing the tribesmen; and he proceeds to expatiate on the difficulty and expense of putting and maintaining an adequate number of troops in the field.

One French priest, named Mu Shou Jen, fled from the yamen of the local Chief, where he had been sent by Feng for protection, and another, named P'u, has escaped to Yunnan; but the Viceroy expresses his conviction that several have been killed.

The Memorial concludes by stating that Feng's mutilated body has been placed in a coffin, which will be fetched by his son as soon as the roads are open.

It seems probable that the disturbances at Batang and T'ai Ling were directly connected, and that a general rising of the tribesmen was expected; and the Batang



people, seeing themselves deserted, are now anxious to make peace on the best terms they can obtain. A note in to-day's local paper, under the heading of "News from Ta Chien Lu," states that Litang has returned to its former submission, but that the tribesmen in Batang still maintain a defiant attitude.

The latest news with regard to the French priests is that two have escaped to Yünnan, and that two have been killed in Batang.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HERBERT GOFFE.

No. 79.

*Acting Consul Litton to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received September 4.)*

(No. 11.)

My Lord,

*Tengyueh, August 4, 1905.*

IN continuation of my despatch No. 6 of the 14th May, I have the honour to submit copy of a further report on the Lama disturbances in North-West Yünnan, which I have addressed to the Government of India, copy being sent to Sir Ernest Satow.

Reports concerning the supposed proceedings of Prince Tuan are constantly being circulated; they lack confirmation, and, in my opinion, should be received with much caution. All over West China Prince Tuan is what is vulgarly known as a "bogey man," and any remarkable, unfortunate, or alarming event which may occur is attributed by popular rumour to his machinations.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. LITTON

P.S.—As the names are unfamiliar, a sketch-map of the country is attached.

G. L.

Inclosure 1 in No. 79.

*Acting Consul Litton to Government of India.*

Sir,

*Tengyueh, August 3, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Lieutenant-Governor, that I have received further letters concerning the lama disturbances in North-West Yünnan. I submit an extract from the latest and most important communication from Father Dubernard.

The rebellion was the work more especially of the exiled Grand Lama's partisans, [who may, I suppose, be called the Russian party.] It was easy to raise disorders, generally on account of the increasing weakness and corruption of the Chinese Government, and particularly on account of the ill-judged attempt of the Szechuan authorities to force their jurisdiction on the Batang people.

From my own acquaintance with the country and from other letters received, I am inclined, though with great respect to his superior knowledge and experience, to think that Father Dubernard, chagrined by the heavy losses which his mission has sustained, makes things out to be worse than they really are. So long as the Chinese occupy Atentse they cut off Chung Tien and Tung Chu Lin from all communication with the insurgent lamas. I doubt if the rebels could organize a force sufficient to turn several hundred Chinese troops out of Atentse. As time goes on the insurgents will find it more and more difficult to hold together and procure food. Unless, therefore, Atentse is lost, or the Dalai Lama's party regains the ascendancy at Lhasa, I should be inclined to think that things will settle down.

Mr. G. Forrest, a botanist, who is now near Wei Hsi, writes to me that, so far as the Chinese military are concerned, the whole affair has now become a mere squeezing and looting expedition. This I can well believe, and, indeed, it is precisely what one



would have expected. The disorderly character of the Chinese troops and the corruption of their officers constitute a serious danger, because the whole country may be raised thereby.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. LITTON.

### Annexe.

*Translation of an extract from a letter from Père Dubernard, Tse-kou Mission, Upper Mekong, dated July 14, 1905, to G. Litton, His Majesty's Consul, Tengyueh.*

THE Prefect of Li Kiang seems to be inclined to remain for ever at Wei Hsi city, while the Wei Hsi Sub-Prefect is still camped at Atentse. He dispatched 300 troops to rescue our poor Christians, who are prisoners at the salt wells at Ya-ka-lo, four days' march north of Atentse on the left bank of the Mekong. He failed to effect his object, and the troops returned because the lamas of Atentse, Hampu, and Tung Chu Lin [A large lamasery between Atentse and the Yang-tsze.—G.L.] threatened to revolt. The lamas of Atentse and Hampu, near Atentse, have abandoned their lamaseries and have fled over to the right bank of the Mekong, two days north of Tse-kou, which is thus threatened. The Chinese traders have abandoned Atentse, and the Thibetan Chief of Atentse has very justly been beheaded. The other native Chiefs, who had nothing to fear, have taken to flight, driven thereby by the treason of the Mandarin's interpreter named Chao, who has also always been hostile to the Christians. Thus the Wei Hsi Mandarin finds himself utterly alone at Atentse, and is only protected by his troops. His position is a false one, and the situation, if prolonged, may become critical for us, and, indeed, we might be in danger of total destruction. If the troops from Tachien-lu, in Szechuan, do not speedily arrive at Batang and act with the Yünnan forces a general revolt of Litang, Batang, Nyarong, and Chung Tien, is to be feared. What is required is prompt and vigorous action, but that is not at all in the Chinaman's line.

In my previous letters, I spoke of the Dalai Lama and of Prince Tuan. I do not know where Prince Tuan is, but he appears to have traversed Thibet just before the occurrences at Batang in April. Has he returned to Kansuh? I cannot say, but the European Powers should keep an eye on him. The Chinese here state that the Grand Lama on arrival in Kansuh was arrested and locked up. It seems extremely probable that if the Grand Lama reappears at Lhasa there will be troubles at once, for he has a numerous party. The British would probably suffer injury from such disturbances, for the existing Lhasa Government has turned a deaf ear to the appeals of the Batang lamas and has refused to give help of any kind to the rebels.

On two occasions official messages have passed along the road to the effect that the Tengyueh Taotai and the British Consul are about to cross the Mekong by the rope bridge at Tse-kou, and I have been asked what is the object of this journey.

(Signed) J. DUBERNARD,  
*Missionnaire Apostolique du Thibet.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 79.

*Sketch Map.*

(Not printed.)

No. 80.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received September 5.)*

(No. 163.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, September 5, 1905.*

THIBET. Please refer to your Lordship's telegram No. 123.

I have again been urged by Nat'ung to move His Majesty's Government to change the remaining Articles, but have informed him that we can agree to the omission of



Article I only on condition that the Chinese Government accept the other Articles as they stand; His Majesty's Government are not ready to agree to the removal of the negotiations either to London or to Peking, and rather than agree to any further alteration, His Majesty's Government would prefer to do without the Adhesion Agreement altogether.

(Repeated to India.)

No. 81.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 7.)*

(A.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 6th September, relative to the unsatisfactory attitude of the Thibetan Government.

*India Office, September 7, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 81.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*September 6, 1905.*

MY telegram of the 3rd ultimo. Thibet affairs.

The text of letter from Lhasa Government has now been received. It is accurately summarized in O'Connor's telegram. Copy of order received by Phari Jongpens from Lhasa is also forwarded by Bell. They are instructed to take charge of Chumbi Valley, and to administer it as before, under threat of severe penalties. Information furnished by Nepal Representative at Lhasa tends to show that fear lest Dalai Lama should, on his return, punish them for complaisance to our demands accounts for the present attitude of Lhasa Government. They also appear to believe in the possibility of the negotiations with Chinese Commissioner at Calcutta resulting in a material modification of the Convention in favour of Thibet. We cannot, moreover, overlook the significance of following incidents:—

1. The remonstrance of Russian Government against the alleged contravention by us of the assurances of Lord Lansdowne reported in your telegram of the 17th August;
2. The recent arrival at Lhasa of caravan under one or more Russians, which is asserted openly by Thibetans; and
3. The visit of the Russian Minister to Dalai Lama at Urga in June last.

Having regard to these circumstances, and to the objectionable tone of the Lhasa Government's letter, we concur in O'Connor's view that it is essential to give a firm reply in order that Thibetans may be convinced that by no pressure from any quarter whatsoever will we be led to recede from the position which has been conferred on us by Convention, whether China gives her adhesion or withholds it. Subject to your approval we propose, therefore, to instruct O'Connor to reply, in effect, as follows:—

Letter of Lhasa Government to Captain O'Connor has been read by Government of India with much surprise, as they are not aware of any justification for the unfriendly terms in which it is couched. Of the promise alleged to have been made General Macdonald we have no knowledge, our own intentions having been clearly and fully set forth in the Treaty which has been signed. Action taken by us in Chumbi Valley is in strict accordance with the terms of that Treaty, and calls for no defence or explanation. Removal of telegraph poles cannot be conceded, but wherever any injury to cultivators is proved compensation will be given.

As an evidence of good-will we must again ask that a passport be furnished to Wilton, but he will be instructed to avoid visiting disturbed districts in neighbourhood of Batang. The tone of the Government of Lhasa's letter appears to us to be inconsistent with the mutual friendly relations which have been maintained since the indemnity was reduced only nine months ago, and to show a strange forgetfulness of that act of clemency on the part of His Majesty's Government.



In conclusion, it might be advisable to remind Lhasa Government that they have not yet fulfilled terms of the Convention, and that we expect early action in discharge of their obligations, notably in respect of Articles V and VIII. If passport is given to Wilton, our idea is that he should proceed inland to Rima, and return via Sadiya to India, avoiding disturbed districts on the Chinese frontier. Your previous sanction will be asked if this arrangement is found to be feasible. We consider that it is important to establish the principle that passports should not be refused by Thibetan authorities when formally applied for by the Government of India on behalf of accredited travellers.

(Repeated to Peking.)

No. 82.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 7.)*

(B.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 6th instant, relative to Russian remonstrances against British action in Thibet.

*India Office, September 7, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 82.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*September 6, 1905.*

THIBET. Your telegram of 17th August.

1. Disposition of British troops in Thibet is as follows: one and a-half companies in Chumbi, one company at Phari, and half a company at Gyantse. In regard to this point, please refer to my telegram of the 10th April last.

2. No lines of railway have been constructed or are contemplated in Chumbi Valley.

3. We have erected in valley both telegraph and telephone lines.

4. The only buildings constructed in the valley are such as are required for housing the Assistant Political Officer and troops, and some rest houses.

5. Our officers are not drilling any Thibetans as soldiers.

6. With the exception of traders, no British subjects are settled in the valley.

Provisions of Article VII of Convention have been strictly adhered to in respect of action taken under heads 3, 4, and 6.

No. 83.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 8.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 3rd August, relative to Thibet affairs.

*India Office, September 7, 1905.*



## Inclosure 1 in No. 83.

*Diary of Captain O'Connor, British Trade Agent at Gyantse, for the week ending July 9, 1905.*

*July 3, 1905.*—About 6 P.M., a lama, in Mongolian dress, came to call upon me. He had in his hand a note, written in English, to say that he was a Japanese travelling in disguise as a Mongolian lama, and that he had just arrived at Gyantse from Shigatse, having travelled from Peking through Mongolia and Thibet viâ Koko Nor and Lhasa. I found, on questioning him, that, although he can read and write English fairly well, he can hardly talk at all; but as he speaks a little Thibetan, we could understand one another. Generally we conversed through his Mongolian servant, who speaks both Mongolian and Thibetan. He himself appears to speak Mongolian fluently. He informed me that his name is E. Teramoto, and he is apparently in the employment of the Japanese Minister at Peking, to whom he sent two telegrams during his stay here, and to each of which he received replies. On hearing from him that he proposed to proceed to Darjeeling viâ Phari, I suggested to him that, if he was not afraid of arousing the suspicions of the Thibetans, he should take up his quarters with me for a few days. He said that he would think the matter over, and let me have an answer next day. He then gave me the information (already communicated by telegram) of the presence of a party of Buriats at Lhasa, whose two principal men appeared to him to be undoubtedly Russian from their personal appearance and other characteristics. He himself witnessed the arrival of some camels laden with long boxes, which he thought very probably contained rifles, and he heard of the expected arrival of other similar caravans. Among the details of his travels and adventures the only other information of an important political nature which he communicated to me was the fact that the Emperor of China has written to the Dalai Lama, instructing him to proceed to Peking before returning to Lhasa, and that the Dalai Lama will probably leave Urga for Peking in the autumn—about October or November 1905. He returned to the monastery at Gyantse, where he spent the night.

*July 4.*—Mr. Teramoto returned from the monastery about noon. He said he had thought the matter over, and that he should be very pleased to accept my invitation to stay with me for a few days. His journey was now practically completed, and he was quite indifferent as to the opinions or suspicions of the Thibetans. We agreed, however, that no mention should be made of his nationality to any natives, and we continued to converse in Thibetan. He was referred to as the "Mongolian lama," and so excellent was his disguise that my own servants had no suspicion whatever that he was other than he appeared—with the one exception of my Thibetan lama clerk, who had acted as tutor to Mr. Kawaguchi at Darjeeling, and soon detected a similarity between the two men. Mr. Teramoto sent a telegram to the Japanese Legation at Peking.

*July 5.*—A reply to Mr. Teramoto's telegram arrived from Peking.

*July 6.*—A Chinese official, who has been sent from Lhasa to inspect the Chinese post-houses along the road called on me to-day. He gave me an account of the Batang massacre, which differs in details from that communicated some time ago by another Chinese official, but which corresponds with that heard by Mr. Bell. He says that troops are now being dispatched from China to converge upon the Batang district from three different directions—from Sungpan and Chengtu, in Szechuan, and also from Yünnan—to the number of 7,500 altogether, and it is rumoured that, after reducing Batang to order, these troops will advance as far as Chando, in Eastern Thibet. There are rumours too of their coming as far as Lhasa. The road between Lhasa and Ta-tsien-lu, he told me, is in a very disturbed state, and no Chinese officials can at present pass along it, but the Chinese post is allowed to pass as usual, with the exception that all letters are examined in the big monastery at Batang, and anything prejudicial to the interests of the people of Batang is destroyed. The Chinese Amban, he said, was wounded in, I think, sixteen places, and killed four men with his own revolver. He died the following day.

*July 7.*—A Thibetan servant of mine was assaulted last night in the bazaar by a party of eight Thibetans, who wounded him in the head and hand, and otherwise maltreated him. I asked the Jongpen to inquire into the case. On arresting the offenders, he found that they consisted of five Thibetan subjects—one Chinese, and two Nepalese subjects—so he asked the Chinese Magistrate and the Nepali Headmen to attend to settle the case the next day.



*July 8.*—The Jongpen, the Chinese local official, and the Nepali Headmen assembled to try the assault case. After hearing the case, the accused were found guilty and sentenced to a flogging by the Jongpen and the Chinese Magistrate. The Nepalese were at first very unwilling to inflict any punishment upon their two offenders; but, on being strongly urged by the Jongpen and the Chinaman, who pointed out the injustice of punishing one party and not the other, they agreed to inflict the same punishment as in the case of the Thibetan and Chinese subjects. The punishment was carried out that evening in a place selected by the Jongpen, and was in each case inflicted by persons selected for the purpose by the Headman of the accused, and in accordance with their own customs and methods. This is the first occasion upon which such a case has occurred, and it should prove useful as a precedent hereafter. The only difficulty was with the Nepali Headmen, who are only merchants and have no standing or authority.

I propose writing to the Gurkha Captain at Lhasa, asking him to try and arrange for the appointment of some more responsible person here to administer justice and keep order amongst the Nepalese subjects, as is done by himself at Lhasa and by the Gurkha Lieutenant at Shigatse.

*July 9.*—Mr. Teramoto left for Darjeeling via Phari. I have given him a note of introduction to Mr. Bell at Chumbi.

He spent his time here in reading any books I have upon Thibet and Buddhism generally. He has maintained his disguise, and is generally regarded as a Mongolian lama of great learning and attainments.

Lieutenants Campbell and O'Leary also left to-day for Chumbi. Some Ladakhi merchants have arrived from Lhasa, bringing silks and other merchandize, and propose starting shops here and at Shigatse.

I have sent a special secret agent to Lhasa to inquire into the matter of the reputed Russian agents.

(Signed) W. F. O'CONNOR, Captain.

*Gyantse, July 10, 1905.*

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Indorsed by British Trade Agent at Gyantse.

(Confidential.)

A copy of the foregoing diary is forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, Simla, for information.

*Gyantse, July 10, 1905.*

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Inclosure 2 in No. 83.

*Frontier Confidential Report No. 27.*

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*Mr. Bell to Mr. White.*

(Confidential.)

*Chumbi, July 20, 1905.*

*Mr. Teramoto, Japanese traveller.*—A Japanese traveller, named Teramoto, arrived here on the 17th instant from Gyantse, after travelling in Mongolia and Thibet, via Kokonor, Lhasa, and Shigatse. He left Kokonor on the 27th day of the 12th month (about the 25th April, 1905). He has come disguised as a Mongolian monk, and has given out that he is a Mongolian who has lived a long time in Peking, thus explaining any vagaries in his Mongolian speech.

2. Mr. Teramoto has been living for five years in Peking as a disciple of the Aja Hutuktu. The latter, who is a native of Amdo in Eastern Thibet, holds a very high position, inasmuch as the tribes of Kokonor, Amdo, Derge, and Litang acknowledge his spiritual overlordship. Mr. Teramoto's father is in the service of Count Otani, one of the two Popes of Japan. Mr. Teramoto appears to be a very intelligent person, and I have no reason to doubt his information. He stayed in Gyantse some six days with Captain O'Connor, arrived here on the 17th, and left on the morning of the 19th for Darjeeling, via Gangtok. He tells me that he speaks Chinese, Manchu, and Mongolian. He can speak Thibetan to a moderate extent.

3. *European Russians in Lhasa.*—As above stated, Mr. Teramoto arrived in Lhasa about the 25th April last. Five or six days after his arrival two European Russians arrived with six Buriats and nineteen camels. He believes the two men to be European Russians, because they had blue eyes and light brown hair. He asked them: "Of what country are you?" They replied: "We are Mongolians." He said: "From which



district of Mongolia?" They replied merely: "We are Mongolians," and could not specify to which part of Mongolia they belonged. They told him that some friends of theirs were following behind.

4. *Russian rifles in Lhasa.*—Of the nineteen camels, ten to twelve were carrying long wooden boxes, which Mr. Teramoto believed to contain rifles. He states that goods from Mongolia are nearly always packed in leather, and not in wood; that he has never seen wooden boxes of such a length brought from Mongolia before. He had some conversation with some of the servants of the lodging-house in which the party stayed, and the servants told him that the boxes were much heavier than those containing the usual imports from Mongolia, *i.e.*, cloth, silks, silver, and miscellaneous goods.

5. Mr. Teramoto states that he speaks Chinese, and appears to have been on friendly terms with the Chinese officials throughout his journey. A military officer, named Ma, on the Amban's staff in Lhasa, told him that the officers were Russians, and that they were bringing rifles to Lhasa.

6. On the 2nd of the 4th month (about the 6th May), Mr. Teramoto left Lhasa and arrived at Tashi Lhumpo on the 11th of the 4th month (about the 15th May). Three days later he met some monks from Lhasa, who told him that about 1,000 camels belonging to the same party had come, many of them carrying boxes of the same make and escorted by Buriats.

7. When Mr. Teramoto was at Gyantse early this month, he heard from some monks of the large monastery at Gyantse that a large consignment of Russian rifles had been received at Lhasa.

8. While at Lhasa, Mr. Teramoto went with a crowd of pilgrims to the Potala, on one of the holy days when such pilgrims go, to obtain the blessing of the Dalai Lama, and now, in his absence, the blessing of the Ti-Rimpoche. One of the Palace attendants, thinking Mr. Teramoto to be a Mongolian, called him aside from the crowd and asked him if he had met the Dalai Lama in Mongolia. He replied that he had not since he had come from Kokonor, whereas the Dalai Lama had gone via Tsaidam to Urga. Mr. Teramoto inquired what the Dalai Lama meant to do in Mongolia, and the attendant said that he hoped to get assistance from the Russians.

9. One is naturally somewhat chary of a report that there are European Russians in Lhasa, since such reports have so frequently proved untrue in the past. However, Mr. Teramoto is a man of good position and of more than average intelligence, and, as stated above, I know of no reason for doubting his statements. The Government of Bengal have asked me the probable date of his arrival in Darjeeling, so that the opportunity will, I suppose, be taken to interrogate him further.

10. *Russian influence in Mongolia.*—Mr. Teramoto states that, when he was in the Alashan district in Southern Mongolia in the 6th month of last year (July–August 1904), he saw there two Russian officers with fifty Russian soldiers, half of whom were European Cossacks and half Buriats. Russian soldiers were constantly travelling in Mongolia as far south as Alashan, whose ruling Chief is on good terms with them. The soldiers dress as Mongolians and carry their rifles in boxes.

11. *Russian intrigues in China, Thibet, and Mongolia.*—Jetsun Tampa, the incarnate Lama of Urga, who is the spiritual head of the greater portion of Mongolia, is, Mr. Teramoto says, on very good terms with the Russians. The Dalai Lama's sympathies, as we know, were always pro-Russian. It was his intention to visit the Tsar, but hearing at Urga of the Russian reverses in Manchuria, he decided that he had no longer anything to hope for from that quarter, and so stayed on at Urga. Jetsun Tampa is said to be an abler man than the Dalai Lama, and his influence over the latter, which is probably considerable, is no doubt being exerted in favour of Russia.

12. Mr. Teramoto thinks that the Russians would like to make Jetsun Tampa Emperor of China with the help of Russian soldiers, and to escort the Dalai Lama back to Lhasa with Russian soldiers, who would in that case remain on in Lhasa. In addition to the Dalai Lama and Jetsun Tampa, the Tongfu Hsiang (the General Commanding the army of Kansu) has been squared by the Russians. He has, however, been dismissed from his post by the Chinese Government.

13. Mr. Teramoto says that the Russians have tried unsuccessfully to attach the Aja Hutuktu (mentioned above in paragraph 2) to their cause. The Hutuktu visited Japan last year, and has come under Japanese influence. Should the Russians succeed in gaining over the Hutuktu, it would very greatly increase their influence in Kokonor, Amdo, Derge, and Litang, and would help to open for them the easiest road from Mongolia to Lhasa, namely, that which passes through Kokonor, Amdo, and Derge. Along this route many stretches of fertile country are met with, while the more western route passes for most of the way through inhospitable uplands. Should the Russians



ever decide to move troops towards Lhasa, the good offices of Aja Hutuktu would be of the greatest benefit to them in helping them along the easier eastern route.

14. *Dalai Lama's movements.*—It is considered probable that the Dalai Lama will go shortly to Peking to meet the Emperor of China. This probability, which I ascertained previously from a fairly good Thibetan source, has already been reported by me in paragraph 1 of my Frontier Confidential Report, dated the 12th June, 1905. Mr. Teramoto believes that his master, the Aja Hutuktu, will act as interpreter between the Emperor of China and the Dalai Lama at the interviews between them, and thinks, therefore, that he should return to Peking as soon as possible. The Hutuktu, being a native of Amdo, can speak both Chinese and Thibetan.

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*Memorandum.*

Copy submitted to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, for information.

(Signed) C. A. BELL,  
*Assistant Political Agent, Chumbi.*

*Chumbi, July 20, 1905.*

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No. 84.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 14.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 13th instant, relative to the unsatisfactory attitude of the Thibetans.

*India Office, September 14, 1905.*

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Inclosure in No. 84.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*September 13, 1905.*

THIBET. White reports that Gyantse Jong is being strongly and thoroughly rebuilt and refortified by Thibetans.

This information has been received since the dispatch of my telegram of the 6th instant. We recommend that a demand that Thibetans should at once desist from further contravention of Article VIII of Lhasa Convention should be added to draft letter, substance of which we have telegraphed to you.

(Repeated to Peking.)

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No. 85.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 15.)*

Sir,

*India Office, September 15, 1905.*

IN continuation of my letter of the 4th ultimo, forwarding the Viceroy's telegram of the previous day, reporting the receipt by Captain O'Connor of a letter from the Lhasa authorities, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to request that you will direct the attention of the Marquess of Lansdowne to the further telegram from the Government of India of the 6th instant, in which they outline the terms of the reply which they propose, subject to the approval of His Majesty's Government, to instruct Captain O'Connor to return.

2. Mr. Brodrick agrees with the Government of India that notice should be taken of the unfriendly tone of the letter, and that both the regulation, for the time being, by the British authorities of the exercise by the Phari Jongpens of their functions, and the



maintenance of such telegraph or telephone lines as may be required in the Chumbi Valley are justified by the VIIth Article of the Convention.

3. The maintenance of the telegraph line beyond the Chumbi Valley to Gyantse must, in Mr. Brodrick's opinion, be considered as much part of the provision for the security of our Trade Agent at Gyantse as the guard, which, as stated in my reply of to-day's date to Mr. Villiers' letter of the 15th ultimo, has been reduced to the lowest possible limit, and which, without telegraphic communication with its base, would be wholly inadequate for the purpose it has to serve.

4. The question of passports seems to him, however, to be on a different footing. The application, which, it appears, has met with a practical refusal, was made to the Lhasa Government before the views of His Majesty's Government on Mr. Wilton's proposed journey had been received, and Lord Lansdowne will remember that sanction was refused on the ground of the disturbed condition of Batang. The Government of India now propose to rearrange Mr. Wilton's journey so as to avoid the disturbed district, and to renew their application to the Thibet Government for a passport.

5. No right to the grant of passports to accredited travellers can be claimed under the terms of the Convention, and it appears to Mr. Brodrick that, in the present temper of the Thibetan authorities, it would be better to postpone Mr. Wilton's journey, while he is unwilling to press the request for a passport, the definite refusal of which might seriously strain the relations between the Government of India and Thibet.

6. Mr. Brodrick would therefore propose to instruct the Government of India not to refer to the matter of the passport in their letter to the Thibetan Government.

7. In other respects he sees no objection to the reply proposed by the Government of India.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) HORACE WALPOLE.

No. 86.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 15.)*

Sir,

*India Office, September 15, 1905.*

IN reply to Mr. Villiers' letter of the 15th August respecting a representation made by the Russian Ambassador with regard to the state of affairs in Thibet, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to request that you will draw the attention of the Marquess of Lansdowne to the telegrams to and from the Viceroy, dated respectively the 17th August and 6th instant.

Mr. Brodrick is of opinion that none of the measures of which the Russian Government complain, in so far as their allegations are correct, are inconsistent with Lord Lansdowne's assurance to Count Benckendorff contained in his written communication of the 2nd June, 1904.

That assurance was to the effect that withdrawal would be effected as soon as reparation had been obtained, and that His Majesty's Government would not attempt, so long as no other Power endeavoured to intervene in the affairs of Thibet, to annex or establish a Protectorate or in any way to control the internal administration of that country.

Reparation, though provided for in the Convention, has not yet been obtained, and the occupation of the Chumbi Valley as security for the payment of the indemnity and for the due performance of other stipulations of the Convention was expressly provided for in that instrument.

In Mr. Brodrick's opinion the escort of the Trade Agent at Gyantse has been reduced to the lowest limits compatible with the security of that official, and the temporary occupation of the Chumbi Valley could hardly be safely undertaken with a smaller force than the two and a-half companies of native infantry which are now stationed at Chumbi and Phari, and without telegraphic or telephonic communication with its base.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) HORACE WALPOLE.



No. 87.

*Acting Consul Litton to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received September 18.)*

(No. 12. Confidential.)

My Lord,

*Tengyueh, August 13, 1905.*

REFERRING to my despatch No. 11 of the 4th instant and my telegram of the 7th instant, I have the honour to submit copy of a further report on the lama disturbances in North-West Yünnan, and the destruction of the Tse-kou Catholic Mission, which I have addressed to Sir Ernest Satow.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) G. LITTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 87.

*Acting Consul Litton to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 15. Confidential.)

Sir,

*Tengyueh, August 12, 1905.*

REFERRING to my telegrams to you, Nos. 19, 20, and 21, and my despatch No. 14 of the 4th instant, I now have the honour to submit translations of telegrams, four in number, which the Taotai here has received concerning the lama rebellion in North-West Yünnan and the destruction of the French Mission at Tse-kou. I have kept some of these papers back for a few days, hoping to receive more definite news as to the fate of the Europeans. There are reports here that Mr. Forrest and one of the Tse-kou fathers were murdered, but this lacks confirmation. I believe that the Taotai here has received no other telegrams than those which I attach. It is possible that the Europeans may have escaped west into the mountains.

I should explain that the telegraph line between Ta Li and Yung Chang is officially stated to have been broken down for over a month continuously. I consider this to be a suspicious circumstance. The Taotai's telegrams are said to have been forwarded from Ta Li to Yung Chang by special courier. During the first week of August even this was not possible, as the Mekong has been in violent flood and communications eastward by courier have been wholly blocked. Runners can now get through with great difficulty, and I hope shortly to receive a Ta Li courier, but not in time for to-day's mail to Burmah.

Thus I am in ignorance of what the Consul has reported to you or what information he has received. The Taotai has used every endeavour to conceal the truth, and has several times positively denied the receipt of telegrams copies of which were in my hands. The nature of these telegrams precludes the supposition that they were invented to deceive me; on the other hand, it is not unlikely that I have secured them in a somewhat fragmentary condition.

After considering these telegrams and letters from other sources, I am still not at all clear what has really happened, while many of the names of places cannot be clearly identified. But the following seems certain:—

1. The great lamaseries of North-West Yünnan who, in May last, when there were no Chinese troops at Atentse, refused to join the Batang insurgents, have now risen against the Chinese.

The reason is, I fear, to be sought in the violence and extortion of the Wei Hsi Sub-Prefect, who has been at Atentse since the end of May with some 400 to 500 troops, who have been looting all over the place.

Tung Chu Lin is the "mother" lamasery of the Atentse lamasery.

2. Efforts have been made, with some success, to detach Kuei Hua Ssu, the great Chung Tien lamasery\* across the Yang-tsze, from the rebel cause on the west of the Yang-tsze. The Sub-Prefect of Chung Tien has the sense to see that if he wants to keep the peace in his district he must keep the Chinese troops out of it.†

3. It is most important to remember the geographical position of the Tse-kou Mission (see my Report No. 7 of the 15th November, 1904),‡ which is situated on the

\* 3,000 lamas.

† See telegram No. 3.

‡ And map attached.



right bank of the Mekong in a gorge connected with the road to the north to Atentse (which is on the left bank) by a single rope bridge. This road is but a narrow track, impassable for pack animals laden in Chinese fashion. The mountains rise abruptly above the river, and on both sides of it to 13,000 feet. No considerable body of men coming from Yakalo, Tung Chu Lin, or the north could have attacked Tse-kou without passing Atentse. What then happened at Atentse? Were the troops there cut up and the Wei Hsi Sub-Prefect killed; or did they open a passage for the rebels to descend to the Mekong to destroy the Mission? Rumours here are contradictory, but either alternative is equally disgraceful to the Chinese.

4. Near Tse-kou and to the south of it is friendly country which is not at all under the lama's influence, but belongs to the Chief of Yetche. There are also a good many Chinese inhabitants. Communication from Tse-kou to Yetche and Wei Hsi is very easy. Why then did not the Li Chiang Prefect, who has been at Wei Hsi since May, withdraw the Europeans to a place of safety? If the Europeans have been murdered a heavy responsibility rests on the Chinese officials. The Wei Hsi official is generally admitted to be a thorough rascal, who has no thought of anything but filling his pockets; the Li Chiang Prefect, on the other hand, has the, I believe, well-deserved reputation of an enlightened and benevolent man, though he is now old and has lately grown infirm. In the absence of direct evidence, I decline to believe that he would in any way connive at the murder of Europeans or the destruction of the Mission.

5. It is clear that I was altogether in error in my Report No. 14 of the 4th August as to the immediate danger of the situation. But this error seems to have been shared not only by the Li Chiang Prefect, but also by the Father Dubernard, who, writing to me from Tse-kou as late as the 14th July, did not appear to anticipate immediate danger. In view of the physical conditions, it is difficult to account for the sudden irruption of the lamas on the 19th July except on the theory of Chinese treachery of some kind at Atentse.

6. Mr. Forrest is an employé of the Royal Botanical Gardens at Edinburgh, of which Professor Isaac Balfour is the Regius Keeper; he was also collecting Alpine seeds for a private amateur. He accompanied me on my journey to Tse-kou last autumn, and in view of the then peaceful state of the country there was no objection to his returning to the Mission at Tse-kou in the spring of this year. As I was absent on the Boundary Commission, I did not hear of the outbreak at Batang till long after it had occurred. I at once warned Mr. Forrest by a special messenger who reached Tse-kou on the 26th May. But as the Yünnan lamaseries then showed no intention of joining the rebellion, Mr. Forrest, quite justifiably, I think, determined to continue his work. As the Chinese were in full occupation of Atentse, I felt little anxiety about Tse-kou, but wrote to Mr. Forrest suggesting that he should come out to Ta Li towards the end of August to meet me; and had not the outbreak occurred, he would probably have very shortly left Tse-kou.

On the other hand, from what I know of Mr. Forrest's character, he would have refused to leave the missionaries in the event of any immediate danger to them being anticipated.

7. It may not be out of place to observe that, not counting minor disorders, this is the third serious rebellion which has occurred in Yünnan during the three years of Viceroy Ting's tenure of office. First, there was the dangerous sedition at Liu An, near the southern frontier; then there was the widespread outbreak of the tribes about Chen Pien, and along the south-west frontier, and now the Thibetans are up.

None of these rebellions would have occurred if the most ordinary efficiency and honesty had been exercised. Viceroy Ting's government is a calamity to his own people and a nuisance to his neighbours, and the Peking authorities would do well to remember that Yünnan is a province with a long frontier along the territories of two civilized Powers, and that these conditions require that it should be administered on principles less thoroughly Chinese. As soon as the Ta Li courier comes in I will submit a telegraphic report.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. LITTON.



## Inclosure 2 in No. 87.

## Telegram No. 1.

(Translation.)

Telegram from the Li Chiang Prefect at Wei Hsi, dated Wei Hsi, 20th July, sent by Courier to Ta Li Telegraph Office, and stated to have been received at Tengyueh late 3rd August, 1905.

ON the afternoon of 19th July the French priest, Pen Mou Te (probably Père Mombéry), came and stated that the rebels had crossed the Mekong,\* and had joined hands with the lamas of Tung Chu Lin,† and had thus blocked communication by letter with places beyond Tse-kou (i.e., to the north). The missionaries at Tse-kou had therefore sent off an express courier on 16th July, who, travelling all night, reached Hsiao, Wei Hsi, early on the 18th, requesting him (i.e., Pen Mou Te) to hasten to Wei Hsi and ask for the immediate dispatch of troops.

I (the Prefect of Li Chiang) have to observe that all my informants as to the movements of the Batang rebels and the lamas state that they have crossed the Mekong. As I had received no secret intelligence for the last four days I was arranging for the dispatch of troops; thus, on hearing the priest's report, I at once ordered a force to advance, composed as follows: the Tsing Yü regiment (of native troops), of whom I retained only fifty odd men, ordering forward the left and right camps; the mountain battery company, and 103 men of the newly levied I Tzu regiment: this force advanced on 20th July, and they took with them twenty European rifles to be lent to the Tse-kou Mission, together with ammunition.

I would observe that I previously requested that a number of regiments should be raised, precisely because I feared that conciliatory measures might fail and the power of the rebels assume serious proportions; my difficulties have been increased by the fact that the troops from other districts eat rice, and the cost of the commissariat was therefore very great. I therefore raised the I Tzu regiment of over 100 men, and then the Kun Tzu regiment of 100 Mahommedans; fearing that my force might still be insufficient, I raised local volunteers and employed the men from the (copper) mines, all of whom eat other grain than rice; thus I was able to increase my forces without increasing the cost of the commissariat. The lamas and Thibetans of Batang and Wei Hsi having now risen, I am, in the first place, sending troops, as explained above, to meet them, and, in the second place, sending news by a by-path to the vanguard force (at Atentse) so that the enemy may be hemmed in on all sides. I have further ordered the native Chief Mu, with some others, to proceed to Chung Tien with all haste so as to concert measures with the Sub-Prefect of Chung Tien for the further pacification of the people. No matter how unruly the lamas there may be, they will not do any harm to this Chief Mu. The Headman, Li Tsu Yui, has gone to Atentse. I propose, having taken measures for the protection of Wei Hsi city, to proceed in person to the front, and I would ask for approval.

(Sent to the Government at Yünnan-fu, and to the Taotai at Tengyueh.)

## Inclosure 3 in No. 87.

## Telegram No. 2.

(Translation.)

Telegram from the Li Chiang Prefect at Wei Hsi, probably dated Wei Hsi, 24th, 25th, or 26th July, sent by courier to Ta Li Telegraph Office, and stated to have been dispatched thence 3rd August (but this is uncertain, as the officials are not telling the truth). There are several *lacunæ* in this telegram, as well as errors of transmission, which make the exact meaning doubtful in one or two places.

SINCE my last report to my superiors, alarming intelligence has been pouring in. I have news that the Tung Chu Lin and Hei Tso‡ lamas have occupied the important

\* Probably from west to east bank, near Atentse.—G. L.

† Large lamasery near Peng-tzu-la, on west or right bank of Upper Yang-tsze.—G. L.

‡ Hei Tso not identified; near Tung Chu (?).



points of Hsiung Kung Pass,\* Bati, and Yang Cha,† cutting off communications; the native Chief, Wang Kuo Hsiang, also reports that the monks and the Thibetans are in occupation of Ta Tzu Chao Pi, Huang Lung Kuan, Pai Ma,‡ Hsiao Chung, and Bati, cutting off all communications and rendering the advance of the troops difficult; he (Wang Kuo Hsiang) also reports that on the night of the 20th July, Chen Hsiao Lu, one of the militiamen who were protecting the Tse-kou Mission, having escaped at the risk of his life to Yetche, reported as follows:—

“Early this morning (20th) the lamas of Yang Pa Ching monastery, leading a crowd of 700 or 800 Thibetans and monks, attacked the Mission from both the east and the west banks of the Mekong; the dwelling-houses were totally destroyed by fire; the Thibetans then assembled at the Mission and searched for the missionaries, but they had already fled, and it is not known where they have gone to. Some of the lamas then remained at the Mission, while others went in hot pursuit of the missionaries. I do not know whether the militiamen who were guarding the Mission are alive or dead.”

Wang Wen Hsiang (probably a brother of Wang Kuo Hsiang, Grand Lama) had sent messengers from Li Chiang by a circuitous route; they have reported that the levies who were guarding the Hsiung Kung Pass have lost twelve men (prisoners) to the rebels; he had also sent men by a circuitous route to the Atentse force with orders to go and summon up the troops at Lai Yuan lamasery; § these messengers were caught by the rebels and their clothes stripped off them, but it is not known if they are alive or dead.

It appears that all along the Mekong the lamas are intimidating the inhabitants to join them, and that nearly all the latter have fled or gone into hiding. Commandant Chiang has gone forward at the head of some volunteers to oppose the enemy; he should reach Yetche § by the 22nd July.

It is reported that at Yetche, and to the north of it, rebels are in occupation, preventing the advance of Wang Kuo Hsiang, while the Atentse road is blocked.

The lamas and Thibetans are now spread about all along the Chung Tien and Wei Hsi roads to the number of several myriads,|| and over country extending to 1,000 li; confusion has bred confusion; one rebel has caused a hundred other rebels, and all our attempts at conciliation have wholly failed. The rebels are all over the place, and I do not know what has happened to the money and rice sent to the troops at Atentse: the two native officers named Chien, whom I sent to Tung Chu Lin, failed to effect an entrance into the lamasery during ten days, and returned to Atentse whence they went to inquire at the Yang Pa Ching¶ lamasery. Since that I have no further news from them, but the Atentse road is blocked, and there is no other path by which messengers can come.

I do not in the least know whether good or bad fortune has attended the three regiments at Atentse, together with the Sub-Prefect of Wei Hsi, who is there, and Wang-tzu Tsing, the officer who was posted on special duty on account of his distinguished services.

I would beg you to request the French Consul to order by telegraph that the French priests should return to Ta Li for the time to take refuge from the dangers of the situation.

This matter can most certainly not be settled without strong military measures, in view of the excesses of the lamas and the Thibetans. I request that a large reinforcement may be at once sent to me, and that orders may go to Yung Chang and Ta Li for provisions to be forwarded, so that my forces, having ample provisions, may be able to surround and destroy the enemy and finish the business. I also beg that a large sum of money may be sent to me by the various available routes.

As I transcribe this, a number of other reports are arriving from all directions; all of them describe the whole country as being in a state of rebellion. All I can do, under these circumstances, is to order the native Chief Mu and the rest to use every possible effort to pacify the country, and to await the event. I would request a speedy answer.

(Sent to the Government at Yünnan-fu and to the Taotai at Tengyueh.)

(The style of this telegram is panic-stricken.—G. L.)

\* Pass from Tung Chu to Atentse.

† Mekong valley, left bank.

‡ Believed to be a “red” lamasery, two days or so south of Atentse.

§ Left bank of Mekong, 30 miles south of Tse-kou.

|| Nonsense.

¶ On right bank of Mekong, I think, south of Yakalo and north of Tse-kou.



Inclosure 4 in No. 87.

*Telegram No. 3.*

(Translation.)

Telegram from the Li Chiang Prefect at Wei Hsi, sent thence by courier to Ta Li, and dispatched thence about the 3rd August (this is uncertain), and received at Tengyueh the 9th August.

(To Yünnan-fu and the Taotai at Tengyueh.)

MY two previous telegrams will have already been submitted to their Excellencies. On the 26th July a special courier came in from Chung Tien with despatches dated the 21st from Juan, the Sub-Prefect, reporting that the petty officer at Chiao T'ou reports that the lamas of Tung Chu Liu (near Peng-tzu-la) have raised trouble and have engaged the Chien Wei regiments; there were losses on both sides. The same officer (*i.e.*, the Sub-Prefect) reports that the large lamasery of Ching Liu† occupies an important strategic position; he asks permission to levy two regiments on his own account so as to avoid the dispatch of official troops into his district. He has previously stated his objections to having such troops sent into his jurisdiction; but the lamas of Pa Kang‡ are resisting our forces, as are the local Chiefs; it is therefore clear that if they take advantage of the present disturbances they may endanger the safety of Chung Tien city itself. I therefore at once replied, instructing Lieutenant Ma and the Sub-Prefect to raise one regiment of their own and to provide rations for the same, while they can get the necessary arms from the prefectural city (Li Chiang, seven days' journey). The communications for the rations of the various regiments are not open. I have made inquiries in various quarters as to what has happened to the missionaries, and I have received various accounts, but nothing is certainly known.

As regards the rebels on Hsiung Kung Shan, I hear to-day from the native Chief Tsin that they are still in occupation. The native Chief Wang Wen Hsiang has entered Lai Yuan Ssu Lamasery and has taken measures, in concert with the monks and Thibetans, to guard the place. Lai Yuan has communication with Li Chiang, Chu Tien (Chung Tien?), and Lu Tien at a distance of four stages.§ I have ordered the local militia to take immediate measures for guarding the important places with a view to securing the road to the rear of us.

The headman Mu is of the same religious sect as the Lai Yuan lamas; he will be able to arrange matters in the future. He is now negotiating with the leading lamas at the Kuei Hua Ssu.|| Please inform their Excellencies.

(This telegram, in the form in which I secured it, appears to be mutilated and incomplete.—G. L.)

Inclosure 5 in No. 87.

*Telegram No. 4.*

(Confidential.)

Translation of a secret (cypher) telegram from the Li Chiang Prefect at Wei Hsi, dated Wei Hsi, probably the 5th August, to the Yünnan Government and the Taotai at Tengyueh, received Tengyueh the 11th August. (I have not got the text of the decypher quite complete, but the general sense is clear.)

SINCE my last telegram many alarming reports have come in, but I am determined to remain cool and collected. But every one knows that the situation is critical; we are eager to lead our forces against the rebels from distant Batang, but we shrink from leading them against our own Yünnan lamas. The monks of

\* Two days north-west of Chung Tien, and near the left bank of the Yang-tsze, near Pengtzula Ferry.

† I think between Chiao T'on and Chung Tien.—G. L.

‡ In the Chung Tien valley, I think.—G. L.

§ This is not clear.—G. L.

|| The great lamasery, close to Chung Tien town.—G. L.



Lai Yuan, and the headman Wang Wen Hsiang, have a feud against the yellow sect of lamas (*i.e.*, they are "red" or Yamapas), and—(here the text is not clear)—Wang Wen Hsiang is leading his people, and Major Chiang is at the head of his troops patrolling and guarding the Mekong and searching for the missionaries, but we have no news yet. The priest Pen is now at Wei Hsi, and I am taking care of him, but most of my troops have been detached to the front; I have therefore ordered to Wei Hsi 300 militia from Li Chiang, and 200 from Ho Ching, but the distance is considerable. Of the troops on the register of the West Yünnan guards I have already ordered up the whole of the Chen Ta Regiment and three companies of the left right and middle camps of the Chien Wei Regiment; the right camp of the Tengyueh-Yung Chang Regiment is posted at such a distance, that I do not care to take the responsibility of ordering it up.

I would beg you to send large reinforcements at once and a plan of campaign, together with considerable sums of money, stating the various accounts from which the money is drawn. Still more earnestly would I beg you to order all the nearest district officials to send to me their militia and to arrange for their pay. If all the lamas do not rise no harm will be done; if they do rise the rebellion will be more formidable than on any other previous occasion. In the Tang dynasty, when money was not paid to the barbarians, they declined to disperse, and I fear the present situation is not dissimilar.

I also request you to consider my previous reports. My popular levies and my troops do not amount to a large force. I am doing all I can to secure the Atentse road [. . . here obscure], and troops have been detailed to protect the French Mission at Wei Hsi. In every quarter my force is weak; the city wall at Wei Hsi is in ruins, and the city gate has collapsed; the people are running away, and I have no means of stopping them. I can only do my utmost as before heaven and before man. I cannot say whether disaster will befall me or not. I have not a single soldier by my side and am quite alone.

Please inform their Excellencies.

No. 88.

*Acting Consul Litton to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received September 18.)*

(No. 13.)

My Lord,

*Tengyueh, August 16, 1905.*

IN continuation of my despatch No. 12 of the 12th instant, I have the honour to submit copy of a further report on the situation in North-West Yünnan, and the murder of Mr. George Forrest.†

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LITTON.

Inclosure in No. 88.

*Acting Consul Litton to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 16.)

Sir,

*Tengyueh, August 15, 1905.*

IN continuation of my preceding report No. 15 of the 12th instant, I regret to have to state that I have now received telegraphic news from Ta Li which leaves no doubt that Mr. Forrest, together with the Venerable Father Dubernard and another missionary, named Bourdonné, were murdered at or near Tse-kou on the 20th-21st July; a telegram from Mr. Wilkinson confirms this. The Taotai here mendaciously asserted that he knew nothing about it until confronted with a copy of the telegram which he had actually received, when he admitted the truth.

I have also a letter from Father Mombéry at Wei Hsi, dated the 25th July, in which he states that the Li Chiang Prefect at Wei Hsi has received neither men or money from his Government, and this in spite of the fact that the Governor-General had repeatedly been warned by the Prefect of the growing seriousness of the situation.

It is clear that a grave responsibility rests upon the Governor-General Ting and upon the local officials.

\* Passage not quite clear.—G. L.



My statement that the rebellion of the Yünnan lamas was due to the extortion of the Chinese, and in particular of the Wei Hsi Sub-Prefect, rests—

1. On statements received by merchants here from their correspondents at Li Chiang.

2. Similar statements made to me here by the Taotai last month that the troops at Atentse were looting.

3. Statements in letters written by Mr. Forrest to me dated in June (*a*) that the march of the troops had become a "mere looting expedition"; (*b*) describing the arrest by the Wei Hsi Sub-Prefect at Atentse of the chief lama of a lamasery near Atentse which had previously refused to join the rebels from Batang. The Sub-Prefect beat the lama until he paid a heavy bribe. It seems that after this these lamas fled to the rebels.

4. Confirmatory statements by the French fathers, who speak of several innocent native Chiefs near Atentse being forced to fly to escape the Chinese, and of the "treachery of the Sub-Prefect's interpreter."

To illustrate how unexpected the attack was, I may mention that I have to-day received a letter delayed in transmission, dated Tse-kou, 9th July, from the late Father Dubernard, stating that for the time there was comparative quiet, and that Mr. Forrest could continue his work without imprudence at Tse-kou.

I have suggested in my telegram to you of to-day's date that I should proceed to Tu Li, where there are a number of refugees, and where I could probably learn details of what really happened at Atentse, which is of the first importance to know, but it is reported here now that the Chinese force at Atentse is intact. From Tu Li I could submit a report to you, or if necessary I could endeavour to approach nearer to the scene of the disorders, for I feel sure that you will, in view of the *prima facie* evidence of serious negligence, if nothing worse, on the part of the Chinese officials, desire to have the matter inquired into as closely as possible, and that you will consider a mere formal expression of regret on the part of the Yünnan Government as wholly insufficient to meet the case.

Until the matter has been more fully gone into, it would not, in my opinion, be appropriate to put forward any demand for an indemnity. But while there are doubts as to the details of this sad event, there is no doubt whatever as to the character of the Yünnan Government and of the Governor-General. I have therefore ventured to suggest combined action by yourself and the French Minister with a view to securing the removal of Viceroy Ting and the appointment of an official who has more idea of the requirements of civilized administration in a frontier province.

One of the priests, whose name I cannot recognise from the Chinese version, is said to have escaped west into the mountains. Père Genestier, who lives among the Lu Tzu and Lisu on the Upper Salwen at Chromra (in latitude 28° north), will be cut off from communications, and is no doubt in grave danger, but unless the Thibetans make a raid into that distant country it is permissible to hope that he may escape. While, as I have reported, the Li Chang Prefect is hardly likely to have connived at these murders, it must be remembered that the Tse-kou Mission had a large and growing influence in the country which the Chinese officials at Yünnan-fu must have regarded with much jealousy, and that they will regard its destruction with satisfaction. It would be a great mistake on the part of the French authorities if they let the matter pass without insisting on the high officials being held responsible.

The appointment of Chang Sung Lin, the provincial Commander-in-chief ("titai"), to take charge of the operations is not likely to improve matters. He is ailing and infirm, and is surrounded by a very undesirable gang of hangers-on.

Further, he is (or was last year) on bad terms with the high authorities at Yünnan-fu, and they have, as likely as not, sent him on this service with a view of getting him into disgrace rather than of restoring order.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. LITTON.

P.S.—After closing this despatch, I received from the Taotai two further telegrams from the Li Chiang-fu at Wei Hsi, which add a good deal to what was previously known.

The Chinese troops, who had proceeded to Yetche on the left bank of the Mekong,



30 miles below Tse-kou, advanced north along the Mekong under Major Chiang, whom I knew well, and who was a brave and capable man. He successfully fought his way to within one and a-half days of Atentse, but he was then caught by the insurgents in a gorge. He and another petty officer were killed by having stones rolled down on them, and the Chinese then retreated back to Yetché.

Fighting is also reported on the road from Chung Tien to Atentse.

What is more important is a statement by a native Christian, who escaped from Tse-kou, to the Prefect of Li Chiang at Wei Hsi. This man states that on the 25th July he met one of the French priests (Chinese name Ü, which I do not recognise), whose subsequent fate is unknown, in the mountains west of Tse-kou. The priest told him that the lamas had surprised the Mission, and that Mr. Forrest had been cut down and killed by some Thibetans whilst talking to him (the priest) "at the foot of the hills," apparently outside the Mission. The account is not clear, but it seems to point to a surprise when no one was prepared.

The few militia at Tse-kou made, it is said, no resistance, and were all killed, while the lamas captured some forty rifles at Tse-kou.

The aged Father Dubernard was pursued and captured in the hills beyond the Mission, together with a number of native Christians, and they were all massacred.

The Li Chiang Prefect states that he has offered a reward of 4,000 taels for any one who will bring in Père Genestier from the Upper Salwen in safety. Measures were also being taken to raise a levy on the Lu Tzu tribes to resist any raid by the Thibetans from Mekong down the Salwen.

G. L.

A clerk has just brought news from the telegraph office that it was through an error in transmission that Major Chiang was reported killed, and that it was only his corporal, who was, I believe, his younger brother.

G. L.

No. 89.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received September 19.)*

(No. 173.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, September 19, 1905.*

THIBET. Official information from the Chinese Government has reached me to the effect that T'ang has been given leave to return home on the ground of ill-health, and his Secretary, Chang Ying-t'ang, has been appointed to go on with the negotiations.

The latter is not provided with full powers. I would therefore suggest that the Chinese Government should be told that, if he is not accredited in the same way as his predecessor, negotiations cannot be continued with him.

(Repeated to India.)

No. 90.

*Memorandum communicated to Count Benckendorff, September 20, 1905.*

ON the 9th ultimo a communication was made by His Excellency the Russian Ambassador stating that according to reliable reports which had reached the Russian Government the Government of India were taking certain steps in Thibet which, it was alleged, were not altogether in accordance with the assurances given by His Majesty's Government on the subject.

The specific grounds of complaint were (1) that British garrisons had been established at three places south of Lhassa, viz., Gyantse, Chumbi, and Phari; (2) that a railway and a telegraph and telephone line starting from Darjeeling had been constructed in the Chumbi Valley; and (3) that the British authorities were erecting permanent buildings, establishing depôts, drilling native soldiers, and encouraging the settlement of British subjects in the whole of the district in question.

[1530]

2 F



His Majesty's Government have been in communication with the Government of India, and have ascertained that—

(1.) No portion of Thibet is occupied by British troops with the exception of the Chumbi Valley, which is occupied by two and a-half companies. This is in accordance with the terms of Article VII of the Convention between Great Britain and Thibet. The British Trade Agent at Gyantse has, however, an escort of 50 men for his protection.

(2.) No railway lines have been constructed in the Chumbi Valley, nor is the construction of any such contemplated. Both telephone and telegraph lines have been erected in the valley, but these are required for purposes of communication with India so long as any British troops remain in it.

The Trade Agent at Gyantse has also been placed in telegraphic communication with the Chumbi Valley. This is necessary, as the escort, which has been fixed at the lowest possible number, would be wholly inadequate unless it was connected by telegraph with the base. The danger of an attack cannot be ignored, as the Government of India have reported that the Thibetans, in contravention of Article VIII of the Convention, are refortifying the fort at Gyantse.

(3.) Only such buildings as are required for the housing of the Assistant Political Officer and the troops stationed in the Chumbi Valley and a certain number of rest houses have been constructed; no Thibetans are being drilled as soldiers by British officers, and no British subjects except traders are settled in the valley.

His Majesty's Government fail to see that any of the above measures, which are due to the British occupation of the Chumbi Valley and to the appointment of a Trade Agent at Gyantse under clause 2 of the Convention, are in any way contrary to the assurances given to the Russian Government; they are, on the contrary, in the opinion of His Majesty's Government, in strict accordance with Article VII of the Convention with Thibet.

The Russian Government are probably unaware of the great forbearance which has been displayed towards the Thibetans, whose indemnity was considerably reduced only nine months ago, and who have so far failed to fulfil the obligations incurred by them under their Convention with Great Britain.

His Majesty's Government feel, therefore, that they have some ground to complain of the manner in which, owing no doubt to the insufficient or misleading information with which the Russian Government have been supplied, His Majesty's Government have been charged with a departure from the assurances which they have given.

*Foreign Office, September 20, 1905.*

No. 91.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 21.)*

Sir,

*India Office, September 20, 1905.*

IN continuation of my letter of the 15th instant as to the reply to be sent to the representations received from the Thibetan Government concerning the action of the British Government at Gyantse and in the Chumbi Valley, I am directed to invite the attention of the Marquess of Lansdowne to the telegram from the Viceroy of the 13th instant, reporting that the Thibetans are thoroughly rebuilding and refortifying Gyantse Jong.

Subject to the concurrence of the Marquess of Lansdowne, Mr. Secretary Brodrick would propose to approve the proposal of the Government of India, that a demand for the immediate desistance from contraventions of Article VIII of the Lhasa Convention should be incorporated in the reply to the Thibetan Government referred to above.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HORACE WALPOLE.



No. 92.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, September 22, 1905.*

I AM directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, calling attention to the telegram from the Government of India in which they suggest the terms of the reply which they propose to send to the representations of the Lhasa authorities with regard to the Anglo-Thibetan Convention of 1904.

In reply I am to state, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, that Lord Lansdowne concurs in the answer which Mr. Brodrick proposes to return to the Government of India on the subject.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

No. 93.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received September 25.)*

(No. 281.)

My Lord,

*Peking, August 10, 1905.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 143 of the 4th instant, I have the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, the notes of my conversation with his Excellency Na-t'ung on the 4th August in regard to Thibet.

I made no mention in my telegram No. 143 of his Excellency's remarks on the subject of the Dalai Lama, because it appeared to me that by doing so I should have invested them with more importance than they merited.

They were obviously meant to weigh with me as alarming features in the existing situation, which could be used to induce the Indian Government to come to terms with T'ang Shao-yi, whereas they merely convinced me that the Chinese Government must be even more anxious than we are that the Dalai Lama should not be allowed to provoke a renewal of disturbance in Thibet.

A copy of this despatch and inclosure has been sent to the Government of India.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

*Inclosure in No. 93.*

*Notes of an Interview with his Excellency Na-t'ung, President of the Wai-wu Pu, on August 4, 1905.*

SIR ERNEST sketched briefly the gist of his conversations of the 14th September, 1904, with Na Ta-jên, and of the 23rd September and the 5th October with Prince Ch'ing on the subject of Thibet. These conversations were brought to an end by the appointment of T'ang Shao-yi as Special Commissioner to Thibet with instructions to discuss Thibetan affairs with the Indian Government on his way. The subject was then dropped, and was not mentioned again to him till he received Prince Ch'ing's private message of the other day through Na Ta-jên.

Na Ta-jên was reminded that the appointment of T'ang and the discontinuance of last year's discussion in Peking were entirely the choice of the Chinese Government who then elected to negotiate in India. In the circumstances, and being without instructions when he received the Prince's message, Sir Ernest naturally had to consult with His Majesty's Government. This he had done, and was now in a position to speak.

After some indirect efforts to induce Na Ta-jên to disclose what the points of difference between T'ang and the Indian Government were, he was asked by Sir Ernest the direct question: "What is the hitch?"

His Excellency had to be assured that Sir Ernest had received a telegram from His Majesty's Government on this subject before he would answer. He said that the



main difficulty was the Article relating to suzerainty. T'ang wanted sovereignty ("Chu Kuo"), and the Indian Government would only agree to suzerainty ("Shang Kuo"). There were other disputed points (his Excellency did not seem to know exactly what they were), but that was the chief stumbling-block.

Sir Ernest took his Excellency back to last year's conversations with Prince Ch'ing, in one of which his Highness said that he had seen telegraphic summaries of two letters received by the Amban from Colonel Younghusband. The contents of these satisfied him that the attitude of His Majesty's Government in regard to China's suzerainty was unobjectionable. The only serious difficulty, according to the Prince, then lay in Article 9, which, it is said, infringed the most-favoured-nation clauses of foreign Treaties.

Na Ta-jen enlarged on the serious state of T'ang's health. A telegram had been received at the Wai-wu Pu which would indicate that he was in a dying condition, and suggested that he should be withdrawn from India and the discussion of Thibetan matters transferred to London or Peking.

Sir Ernest did not think this was feasible. If the objection on the part of China to the word "suzerainty" was adhered to, it would, in any case, do no good to transfer the discussion to either London or Peking.

It was obvious that the Indian Government had been in communication with His Majesty's Government throughout the discussions with T'ang, and the point in question was one on which His Majesty's Government would not give way.

Sir Ernest enumerated the events leading up to the Lhasa expedition, dwelt especially upon the steady refusal of the Thibetans extending over a term of years to recognize Agreements concluded by the Chinese Government, or to obey Chinese authorities—the Chinese Amban was prevented from repairing to the rendezvous officially arranged at Kamba Jong by the refusal of the Thibetans to provide him with transport—and pointed out that the position was not the same now as it was before the Lhasa Convention.

His Excellency asked in what way the position was different, and was informed that the terms of the Lhasa Convention and the fact of the expedition constituted the difference.

The discussion came back to the words "suzerainty" and "sovereignty," and Sir Ernest expressed the opinion that the former was the proper word.

Na Ta-jen returned to T'ang's health, and the impossibility of keeping a man who was pleading severe illness at a post indefinitely. T'ang had telegraphed proposing the omission of the Article containing the word "suzerainty," and this seemed to offer a solution of the difficulty. Prince Ch'ing had asked his Excellency to sound Sir Ernest on the subject.

Sir Ernest recalled that one of the original objections made to the Lhasa Convention was that it ignored China's suzerainty, and, no doubt, the main object of introducing the stipulation in the Adhesion Treaty was to satisfy China and the world on that point. If China did not require the stipulation, Sir Ernest thought that the Indian Government would make no difficulty about removing it.

Na Ta-jen said that he was prepared to telegraph to T'ang to omit the Article containing "suzerainty," and instruct him to stay on another week in India for the purpose of coming to an agreement in regard to the remaining Articles. He suggested that Sir Ernest Satow should also telegraph to the Indian Government in the same sense.

Sir Ernest agreed to do so.

Na Ta-jen wished Sir Ernest to know privately some considerations which were moving the Chinese Government in their endeavours to get this matter of Thibet done with and out of the way. The Dalai Lama, who was still in Urga, was a source of trouble while he remained there. The Chinese Government were not satisfied with their Resident at Urga (evidently in consequence of the intrigues of the Dalai Lama with the Russians), and they had transferred him to Kuei-hua-Ch'eng, appointing Yen Chih (the substantive Resident at Hsi-ning, who has been detached to Urga to escort the Dalai Lama back to Thibet) to take his place. When these transfers were announced in the "Gazette" a few days previously, the Russian interpreter, M. Kolessow, called at the Wai-wu Pu and asked Na Ta-jen, "What about our Dalai Lama now that Yen Chih is appointed to remain in Urga?" As Sir Ernest was aware, the Russians had offered the Chinese Government some months previously a guard of Russian soldiers to escort the Dalai Lama back to Thibet. This had been refused, but a telegram had now come from Lhasa that a body of the Dalai Lama's retainers had started for Urga, and though it was easy to refuse the Russian guard,



it was not a simple matter to interfere with the Thibetan retainers, who were only performing their duty to their Chief. Had Sir Ernest any idea what would happen if the Dalai Lama went back to Lhasa?

Sir Ernest was fairly certain that the Dalai Lama would first of all try to punish or imprison all those Thibetans who had been instrumental in concluding the Lhasa Convention, or who had any amicable relations with the British expedition or British authorities, and generally that he would set to work to undo all that the British had accomplished.

Na Ta-jên had his fears that the Teshu Lama and Dalai Lama, being in opposite camps, the one pro-British and the other pro-Russian, something would happen.

Sir Ernest was inclined to think that the "last state of Thibet would be worse than the first" if the Dalai Lama were allowed to return to Lhasa.

In Na Ta-jên's view the best place for the Dalai Lama was Hsi-ning, where he would be away from Russian influence and still far enough from Thibet. But it was important, in the circumstances, to settle the questions at issue between the two Governments in regard to the Lhasa Convention in the first place. While these remained undecided the Dalai Lama would be a focus of trouble. Moreover, peace between Japan and Russia was under discussion, and if it was concluded and the Russians "recovered their breath," the settlement of Thibetan matters might become more difficult. He mentioned these things privately to Sir Ernest to show why he was anxious to clear Thibet out of the way, for with the conclusion of peace between Russia and Japan there would be many other matters in regard to which China would have to come to the British Government.

## No. 94.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, September 25, 1905.*

I AM directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, calling attention to the telegram from the Viceroy of India of the 13th instant, in which he reports that the Thibetans are rebuilding and refortifying Gyantse Jong.

In reply, I am to state, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, that Lord Lansdowne concurs in Mr. Brodrick's proposal to approve the suggestion of the Government of India that a demand for the immediate desistance from contraventions of Article VIII of the Lhasa Convention should be incorporated in the reply which they intend to return to the representations of the Thibetan Government respecting the action of His Majesty's Government at Gyantse and in the Chumbi Valley.

I am, &c.

(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

## No. 95.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 29.)*

WITH reference to this Office letter of the 28th instant, the Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 28th instant, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcutta.

*India Office, September 29, 1905.*



Inclosure in No. 95.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

September 28, 1905.

YOUR telegram of the 23rd instant.

Chinese Commissioner Tang will leave Calcutta on the 30th instant, with the view either of letting another Commissioner sign and so saving his face, or, as is more probably the case, of recommencing negotiations hereafter in the hope of securing more favourable terms from incoming Viceroy. Tang's alleged ill-health is a mere pretext.

On the assumption that the attitude of His Majesty's Government cannot in any way be affected by a change of Commissioners on either side and that it would be convenient to get the Adhesion Convention settled before I leave, I would suggest that the Chinese Government should be informed of the serious disappointment felt by His Majesty's Government at the departure of their Commissioner from India before conclusion of Convention, to which, since the concession made by us in regard to Article I, there has been no obstacle.

I would further recommend that pressure should be brought to bear on Chinese Government to secure the communication by telegraph to Tang's successor of full powers and of instructions to sign the Convention before the 24th proximo, on which date Fraser leaves the Foreign Secretaryship; otherwise it will be necessary to postpone the negotiations until Dane arrives, and they will then have to be taken up afresh by a negotiator unfamiliar with the previous stages of the discussion. From statements made by Tang we understand that the Chinese Government are prepared to accredit Chang Yui Tang in due form, but it is a question for the consideration of His Majesty's Government whether, before proceeding with appointment of fresh Commissioners, a plain intimation should not be made to the Chinese Government that continuance of the negotiations, except on the basis of the draft Convention which the Government of India have already put forward, is useless.

(Repeated to Peking.)

No. 96.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received September 29.)*

(No. 177.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Peking, September 29, 1905.

PLEASE refer to your Lordship's telegram No. 112 of the 23rd July on the subject of Thibet.

On the 28th instant I informed Prince Ch'ing that I had received instructions from His Majesty's Government definitely to state that they could not agree to any further changes in the arrangement which T'ang has been asked to sign; and they would, in case this arrangement were rejected, do without the adhesion of China, and rest satisfied with the Agreement which they had come to with Thibet. Furthermore, I pressed him to provide Chang Yin-T'ang with full powers, and I pointed out that if the discussion had to be continued with Sir L. Dane it would be very inconvenient, as he would come new to the subject.

Prince Ch'ing answered that full powers would be sent to Chang, and added that he desired certain verbal modifications.

The changes which he desires are, in my opinion, likely to prove more than mere changes of wording, and therefore I gave him plainly to understand that the sense of the draft must not be altered.

(Repeated to India.)

No. 97.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 141.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, September 30, 1905.

I DO not gather from your telegram No. 177 of yesterday, respecting the negotiations for the adhesion of China to the Thibetan Convention of 1904, that, in accordance with the desire of the Government of India, the Chinese Government will send by telegraph the full powers for Chang and the Chinese negotiator at Calcutta.

You should make this point clear to the Chinese Government.



## No. 98.

*Sir C. Hardinge to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received October 3.)*

(No. 581.)

My Lord,

*St. Petersburg, September 30, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to report that a telegram from Irkutsk, published in the St. Petersburg papers of to-day, announces that the Dalai Lama has left Urga for Thibet.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES HARDINGE.

## No. 99.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received October 3.)*

(No. 179.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, October 3, 1905.*

THIBET negotiations.

With reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 141, I have the honour to state that an official note from the Wai-wu Pu has reached me in which I am informed that full powers have been sent to Chang by telegraph.

(Repeated to India.)

## No. 100.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 5.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 4th instant, relative to the affairs of Thibet.

*India Office, October 5, 1905.*

## Inclosure in No. 100.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*October 4, 1905.*

FOLLOWING telegram, dispatched from Shigatse on the 26th September, has been received from O'Connor:—

"I have just received a message from the Tashi Lama to say that last night a messenger from Lhasa reached him with news that Dalai Lama, having left Urga, is now on his way back to Lhasa under escort of 2,000 Chinese soldiers and high Chinese officials. Date of his probable arrival at Lhasa is not known, but preparations are being made there to receive him. A meeting of the Thibetan National Assembly has been held, and officials have been deputed to meet him. A deputation is also being sent by the Chinese Amban."

Please refer to our telegrams of the 6th and 13th September. In view of the present somewhat critical stage in Thibetan politics, and in view also of the manner in which Tang's withdrawal will be interpreted at Lhasa, we regard it as of great importance that no time should be lost in issuing letter, in terms we have proposed, reminding Thibetan authorities of their obligations to the British Government.

(Repeated to Peking.)



## No. 101.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received October 6.)*

(No. 181.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, October 6, 1905.*

PLEASE refer to your Lordship's telegram No. 145.

On the 28th September I was informed by Prince Ch'ing that the Dalai Lama was supposed to be on his way to Hsi-ning and in the territory of a Mongol Prince, having apparently left Urga about the 15th September.

It will not have escaped your Lordship's recollection that I was informed some time ago by Natung that the Dalai Lama would be detained at Hsi-ning when he arrived there.

## No. 102.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 7.)*

(A.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 6th October, relative to the affairs of Thibet.

*India Office, October 7, 1905.*

## Inclosure in No. 102.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*October 6, 1905.*

YOUR two telegrams dated the 6th September.

His Majesty's Government approve of the communication which you propose to address to the Thibetan Government, except that in the circumstances they would deprecate any reference to renewed request for passport for Wilton, as we are not entitled to demand such passports under the terms of the Convention. The intimation proposed in your further telegram of the 13th September with regard to the fortifications of Gyantse is also approved.

[A Memorandum based upon your telegram of the 6th ultimo has been communicated by Lord Lansdowne to the Russian Ambassador with reference to the representations recently made by his Government. It was further stated in the Memorandum that our Agent at Gyantse has been placed in telegraphic communication with the Chumbi Valley; and it was pointed out that this measure was necessary because the escort, unless connected by telegraph with its base, would be wholly inadequate, its numbers having been fixed as low as possible; and also because, in view of the reported action of Thibetans in refortifying Gyantse Jong in contravention of Treaty, it is impossible to ignore the danger of an attack.]

## No. 103.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 7.)*

(B.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 6th October, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcutta.

*India Office, October 7, 1905.*



## Inclosure in No. 103.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

October 6, 1905.

THIBET negotiations.

With reference to your telegram of the 28th ultimo and that from Sir E. Satow of the 3rd instant, I should be glad to know whether there is any reason why Fraser should not continue to be British Commissioner, after Dane's return to India, till the Agreement is accepted by China or uselessness of further negotiations becomes evident.

## No. 104.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received October 9.)*

(No. 287. Secret.)

My Lord,

*Peking, August 24, 1905.*

MY United States' colleague, Mr. Rockhill, has been so good as to communicate to me the following particulars of a visit which he received a few days ago from the Abbot of the Sera Monastery at Lhasa, accompanied by a Mongol priest. They delivered to him a letter of introduction, dated Urga, the 19th July (*i.e.*, the 1st August), written in English, and signed by a person named Tcherbatski, a "privat-docent" of the School of Languages at that place, who stated in it that he had, in conversation with the Dalai Lama, mentioned Mr. Rockhill as being perhaps the only foreigner in Peking acquainted with Thibet and its affairs. The Dalai Lama, who until then had never heard either of North America or of the United States, was immensely interested, and had expressed the desire to enter into relations with Mr. Rockhill, for which purpose he was dispatching the bearer of the letter.

To judge from the date, the Abbot and his companion must have travelled post-haste from Urga to Peking.

After delivering M. Tcherbatski's letter, the Abbot proceeded to say that his master was very anxious to return to Lhasa, but could not do so until the question of the Convention between Great Britain and Thibet was disposed of in a proper manner, and he besought Mr. Rockhill to use his good offices in order to facilitate the necessary arrangement.

Mr. Rockhill told me that he replied to the Abbot that the United States had no interest in the matter, and that the best plan would be to see the British Minister, who was known to be a just and reasonable man. This, however, the Abbot said was impossible. He had not called on any of the other foreign Ministers, but did Mr. Rockhill advise him to do so? My colleague answered that he had better see no one but the British Minister, but if that was not agreeable to him, he would himself see the British Minister and endeavour to ascertain his views.

I replied that if I were speaking to the Abbot I should say to him that the British Government were desirous of cultivating good relations with Lhasa, but a necessary condition of that would be that the Thibetans should change their ways. In the past they had intrigued with a Power that lay several thousand miles away, and had declined all intercourse with their immediate neighbour, the Government of India. This had been the sole cause of the difficulties that had arisen, and the Dalai Lama had only himself to thank if he now found himself an exile, in consequence of his having quitted Lhasa for the immediate vicinity of that other Power instead of remaining in his capital to receive the Mission sent to him by his neighbour.

Mr. Rockhill informed me that he had said very much the same thing to the Abbot, namely, that the Thibetans had brought all their troubles on themselves by refusing to observe the engagements made on their behalf some years ago, and that he would shortly take an opportunity of returning the Abbot's visit and repeating my language to him.

With regard to the assertion of the Abbot that he had not visited any other foreign representatives, I take it for certain that, being the bearer of a letter of introduction from a Russian professor at Urga, he had already seen the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, and had received a certain amount of advice from him as to what he should say to Mr. Rockhill. Some ten days ago M. Kozakow called on me to beg for the loan of the Bluebook



containing the Lhasa Convention, which he doubtless desired to discuss with this emissary of the Dalai Lama, and I lent it to him without hesitation, though not without some curiosity as to the purpose for which he needed to consult the text. I have no doubt that whatever my American colleague repeats to the Abbot on my behalf will be duly conveyed to M. Kozakow for his information.

A copy of this despatch will be forwarded direct to the Government of India.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

No. 105.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 9.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegaam to the Viceroy, dated the 3rd instant, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcuttr.

*India Office, October 9, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 105.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*India Office, October 3, 1905.*

YOUR telegram of the 28th September as to Thibet negotiations.

Please see the telegram of the 29th idem from Sir E. Satow. He has been instructed, in accordance with your wishes, to make it clear that the requisite full powers are to be communicated by telegraph to Chang.

No. 106.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 11.)*

(C.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of Gyantse Diary for the week ending the 13th August.

Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

*India Office, October 10, 1905.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 106.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Gyantse, August 16, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a copy of my diary for the week ending the 13th August, 1905.

Inclosure 2 in No. 106.

*Diary of Captain O'Connor, British Trade Agent at Gyantse, for the week ending August 13, 1905.*

(Extract.)

*August 13, 1905.*

I WROTE a letter to the Tashi Lama, in reply to his private letter to me, in which I informed him that Mr. Tang was, I believed, at present in India, but that the result of his negotiations with the Indian Government would in no way affect the Treaty concluded last year between us and the Thibetans. I thanked him for the



information he had given me, and said I hoped he would keep me supplied from time to time with news of any important events occurring at Lhasa or elsewhere. As regards my own movements, I said that I proposed, with the permission of the Indian Government, to proceed on leave shortly, but that I hoped to be able to return later on to Thibet.

I have been unable to make any reply to his invitation to me to visit Shigatse next month, or to his query as to whether it would be advisable for him to write direct to his Excellency the Viceroy.

## No. 107.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 11.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 10th instant, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcutta.

*India Office, October 11, 1905.*

## Inclosure in No. 107.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*October 10, 1905.*

THIBET negotiations. Your telegram of the 6th instant.

When Sir L. Dane returns to India, Fraser will proceed to Mysore as Resident, after a period from 24th October to 18th November, during which he will be on special duty with the Viceroy. It would thus be inconvenient on public grounds to prolong his appointment as Commissioner for Thibet negotiations. Such prolongation would, moreover, encourage the Chinese Government to delay acceptance of the Agreement. Further, in view of the definite pronouncement made to Prince Ch'ing by Sir E. Satow on the 28th ultimo with regard to the intention of His Majesty's Government, a continuance of the negotiations would not seem to promise any advantage. In these circumstances, I would venture to suggest the desirability of reminding the Chinese Government that negotiations have now been going on for eight months, and of asking them for a definite statement whether they accept the position, and whether they are prepared to instruct their Commissioner Chang to sign the Agreement with the modifications agreed to by His Majesty's Government before the 24th October. Otherwise, they might be told that His Majesty's Government would prefer to dispense with their adhesion to the Lhasa Convention, as there is nothing to be gained by resuming negotiations.

Chang has received the full powers, which have been communicated to him by telegraph.

We are informed confidentially that Chang has renewed lease of house at Calcutta for a term of six months, and it is tolerably certain that negotiations will be spun out for that time unless some such intimation as proposed above is made to the Chinese Government.

(Repeated to Peking.)

## No. 108.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 12.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 11th instant, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcutta.

*India Office, October 11, 1905.*



## Inclosure in No. 108.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*India Office, October 11, 1905.*

THIBET negotiations. Your telegram of the 7th instant.

Sir E. Satow took action on your telegram of the 28th September without awaiting instructions, *vide* telegram of the 29th. As Chang has now been sent full powers by telegraph, His Majesty's Government are inclined to think that representations already made by Sir E. Satow are sufficient, and give effect to your views.

## No. 109.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 19.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 17th October, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcutta.

*India Office, October 18, 1905.*

## Inclosure in No. 109.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Downing Street, October 17, 1905.*

THIBET Adhesion Agreement. Your telegram of the 10th instant.

Please see the telegram of the 29th September from His Majesty's Minister at Peking. Sir E. Satow will now be instructed, with reference to the representations already made, to make a further intimation to the Chinese Government, to the effect that continuance of negotiations will be useless, unless Chang has orders to meet without delay the views of His Majesty's Government as to the Agreement.

In the meantime, in view of the fact that full powers have been received by Chang, the resumption of negotiations at Calcutta is advisable; and His Majesty's Government will await a report from you as to their progress.

As regards appointment of Dane in the place of Fraser as British Commissioner, there is no objection to this, provided prospect of settlement exists, though the change may occasion delay. If, however, after negotiations have been resumed you report that there is no prospect of settlement, His Majesty's Government will decide whether our Commissioner should at once close discussion at Calcutta, an intimation that we see no advantage in continuance of negotiations and prefer to dispense altogether with Chinese adhesion, being made simultaneously to the Chinese Government by Sir E. Satow.

## No. 110.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 151.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, October 19, 1905.*

THIBET Adhesion Agreement.

The Government of India have been requested to resume negotiations with Chang at Calcutta, as he has received full powers. It will, however, be useless to continue the negotiations unless Chang has instructions to meet the views of His Majesty's Government with regard to the Agreement without delay, and you should make a representation to the Chinese Government in this sense.

See your telegram No. 177 of the 29th ultimo.



No. 111.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 20.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 19th October, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcutta.

*India Office, October 20, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 111.

*Government of India to Sir E. Satow.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

October 19, 1905.

THIBET Adhesion Agreement.

It is understood that you have received instructions from His Majesty's Government, with reference to the representations reported in your telegram of the 29th ultimo, to make a further intimation to Chinese Government to the effect that continuance of negotiations will be useless unless Chang has orders to meet the views of His Majesty's Government as to the Agreement without delay.

His Majesty's Government have expressed the opinion that resumption of negotiations at Calcutta is advisable, and that they will decide whether discussion should at once be closed by our Commissioner at Calcutta in the event of my reporting that there is no prospect of settlement. As the question is thus likely to be settled at an early date, I propose to leave negotiations in the hands of Fraser and Wilton, in order that inconvenience of change of Commissioners at the last moment may be avoided.

As soon as you report either that Chang has received, or that he is not likely to receive, immediate instructions from Chinese Government, Wilton will at once proceed to Calcutta and approach Chang. Should the latter state that he has received no instructions to meet the views of His Majesty's Government, I shall interpret this as meaning that there is no prospect of settlement being arrived at, and shall report accordingly to His Majesty's Government.

I shall be glad if you will telegraph whether instructions have been dispatched to Chang by Chinese Government, and, if so, what is their purport.

(Repeated Secretary of State.)

No. 112.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received October 20.)*

(No. 186.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Peking, October 20, 1905.

THIBET. I have informed the Chinese Government in the sense of your Lordship's telegram No. 151.

Chang has received no instructions either to accept or to refuse the proposals made to Tang. The latter is expected in Peking shortly, and until the Chinese Government have had an opportunity of consulting him none will be sent to Chang.

I have given the Chinese Government clearly to understand that unless Chang receives instructions in the sense we desire, His Majesty's Government will probably close the discussion instead of resuming negotiations.

The Chinese Government appear to think they lose nothing by delay, and I think it is likely they will abstain from sending any directions to Chang until Lord Minto takes charge.

(Repeated to India.)



*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received October 21.)*

(No. 297. Secret.)

My Lord,

*Peking, August 31, 1905.*

IN explanation of my despatch No. 287, Secret, of the 24th instant, I have the honour to give the following particulars regarding the Thibetan dignitary who recently interviewed my American colleague with the object of securing his good offices in relation to the Lhasa Convention.

This Envoy of the Dalai Lama, who presented himself to Mr. Rockhill, is named Balte Gegen, and is described by my informant as a Chief Councillor of high rank and a member of the monastery of Sera at Lhasa. He was some time back sent to Urga by the Dalai Lama to be the instructor of the "Living Buddha" of that place, but the latter not being desirous of listening to his teaching, he was, on the arrival of the Dalai Lama at Urga, sent up to Peking as his Envoy to the Chinese Court.

The statement given in my despatch already referred to, that he had been the bearer of the letter from M. Tcherbutski, is therefore erroneous. I have not been able to learn anything further respecting the latter gentleman.

In all probability the visit to Mr. Rockhill was paid with the cognizance of the Foreign Board, for the language used by him to my colleague, about the necessity of the Convention being disposed of in order to enable the Dalai Lama to return to Lhasa, agrees closely with remarks that have been made to me by Na-t'ung himself.

A copy of this despatch will be sent to India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received October 21.)*

(No. 299.)

My Lord,

*Peking, September 6, 1905.*

IN continuation of my dispatch No. 281 of the 10th August, I have the honour to inclose copies of further correspondence with the Grand Secretary Na-t'ung and Prince Ch'ing in regard to the Thibetan negotiations.

On three occasions (the 9th, 13th, and 20th August) Na inquired whether I had received any answer to my telegram No. 143 of the 4th August, and he was told on the 13th and 20th August that I did not necessarily expect to receive a reply from His Majesty's Government. He on his side professed to have no information from T'ang, and under the circumstances I thought it better to ask, in my telegram No. 156 of the 21st August, whether there was anything which your Lordship would wish me to communicate to him.

On the 24th August Na wrote me a private letter (translation inclosed) which did not accurately summarize the nature of the verbal understanding come to between us on the 4th August. To prevent misapprehension I drafted a letter to Prince Ch'ing (Inclosure No. 3). I took an opportunity on the 26th August to show this draft privately to Na, and asked him whether he preferred that I should send it in officially or that he should adopt its contents as a spontaneous instruction to T'ang. I hinted at the time that His Majesty's Government would prefer to dispense with China's adhesion if our terms were not accepted.

I saw Na again on the 28th August, and inquired his views in regard to my draft reply. He said that a telegram had been sent to T'ang, that an answer was expected in a couple of days, that it would be difficult to accept the remaining Articles as they stood, and that Article II was especially objectionable. He was again informed of the possibility of His Majesty's Government dispensing altogether with the Adhesion Agreement.

I learnt on the 27th August, from Lord Curzon, that T'ang had made no communication to the Government of India, as he should have done according to the verbal understanding with Na-t'ung of the 4th August, and this fact and the contents of another unsatisfactory private letter received from Na-t'ung on the 1st September (Inclosure No. 2) convinced me that Prince Ch'ing and he were merely trying to alter



the Agreement bit by bit through me, and this too in spite of having been informed that His Majesty's Government would not consent to a transfer of the negotiations.

Ignoring the request contained in Na-t'ung's letter, I sent my draft letter of the 26th August to Prince Ch'ing officially on the 2nd September, and next day I invited Na-t'ung to explain T'ang's silence, pointing out that the proposal to omit Article I came originally from T'ang, and that it was obviously his business to approach the Indian Government. Na's explanation was not satisfactory—he said at first that T'ang was ill, and when reminded that communication by letter was possible, suggested that perhaps the draft Agreement was not in T'ang's hands—and he was then informed categorically that the omission of Article I could be agreed to only on condition that the remaining Articles were accepted by the Chinese Government as they stood, that His Majesty's Government were not prepared to move the negotiations either to Peking or London, and that we should prefer to dispense with the Adhesion Agreement altogether rather than consent to any further alteration. I also gave him clearly to understand that any further communication on this subject which he might wish to convey to His Majesty's Government should be made through the proper channel.

I had the honour to inform your Lordship of the tenour of this last communication to Na in my telegram No. 163 of the 5th September.

A copy of this despatch has been sent to the Viceroy of India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 114.

*Grand Secretary Na-t'ung to Sir E. Satow.*

(Translation.)

Your Excellency,

August 24, 1905.

IN view of the fact that the Thibet-Indian Convention had not been settled, and of our intention to instruct T'ang Tachen to return home on account of his ill-health, I had the honour recently to receive your Excellency's consent to telegraph to His Majesty's Government asking that instructions might be issued for a final settlement to be speedily made.

I have received no further news on this point, but T'ang Tachen has reported by telegraph Lord Curzon's resignation, and the appointment of the Earl of Minto, late Governor-General of Canada, to succeed his Excellency. I therefore have the honour to request your Excellency to telegraph to His Majesty's Government asking that orders may be reiterated to bring this matter of the Treaty to a conclusion at an early date.

Awaiting the honour of a reply, I avail, &c.

Inclosure 2 in No. 114.

*Grand Secretary Na-t'ung to Sir E. Satow.*

(Translation.)

Your Excellency,

*Kuang Hsü, 31st year, 8th moon, 3rd day*

*(September 1, 1905).*

I HAVE taken note of the contents of the draft letter which your Excellency was so good as to hand to me a few days ago. His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs having agreed to the omission of Article I from the draft Treaty now under negotiation is a proof of the sense of equity which animates His Majesty's Government. But the remaining Articles are all of consequence, and should be further discussed with a view to satisfactory emendations.

I have the honour to return your Excellency's draft, and to express the hope that your Excellency will be so good as to again move His Majesty's Government to come to an agreement with T'ang Tachen as soon as possible in regard to the remaining Articles.

I avail, &c.



## Inclosure 3 in No. 114.

*Sir E. Satow to Prince Ch'ing.*

Your Highness,

Peking, September 2, 1905.

I BEG to acknowledge receipt of the letter addressed to me yesterday by your Highness and their Excellencies, with reference to the negotiations at Calcutta in which his Excellency T'ang is engaged, and in connection with the resignation of Lord Curzon and the appointment of the Earl of Minto to succeed him as Viceroy. You request me to telegraph again to His Majesty's Government asking for orders to be reiterated to bring this matter of the Thibetan Convention to a conclusion at an early date.

In reply, I have the honour to acquaint your Highness that the appointment of a new Viceroy will have no effect on the negotiations. With reference to my promise to telegraph to India and to His Majesty's Government the proposal made to me on the 4th August that his Excellency T'ang should be instructed to propose the omission of Article I of the draft framed by the Indian Government, and to terminate the discussion of the remaining Articles without delay, I have the satisfaction of informing your Highness, by instructions from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that His Majesty's Government will consent to the omission of Article I provided the remaining Articles are accepted without alteration by the Chinese Negotiator, but that they are not disposed to agree to any further modifications.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

No. 115.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 24.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 21st September, relative to the affairs of Thibet.

*India Office, October 23, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 115.

*Mr. White to Government of India.*

Gangtok, July 31, 1905.

WITH reference to Mr. Holland's letter, dated the 26th July, 1905, I have the honour to inclose copies of the letter received by Captain O'Connor from the Ti-Rimpoche, and his reply thereto.

*The Ti-Rimpoche to Captain O'Connor.*

(Translation.)

I hope that you are in good health, and that your affairs are prospering. I was much pleased at receiving the photographs you sent me. Here I, too, am in good health, and am occupied in my religious duties. We have recently received a Petition from the Phari Jongpens and the peasants of Upper and Lower Chumbi to the effect that an officer, called Bell Sahib, had said that he is now the master (or high official) of Chumbi, and that neither Chinese, Thibetans, Bhutanese, or Sikkimese have any powers, and that you (the Chumbi people) are not to pay taxes to them. If you receive pay in accordance with the custom of the British Government for pony or other animal hire, for grass, wool, &c., then you may sell or hire; if not, you should not give. If I hear that you give without receiving the price, then you will be punished. You must pay yearly to the British Government taxes to the value of 2,500 rupees, half in money, and half in coolies for road-making.

You must not pay to the Phari Jongpens the taxes and Customs dues laid down in the old records.



You must make a garden at Gyaling. No one must cut the forest trees round Sher-Sing.

The peasants must carry planks, beams, and pillars (for the Government). A new house is to be built. The roads in Phari village must be kept swept and clean, if not, a fine of 500 rupees will be inflicted.

Merchants proceeding to India shall not pay dues to the Thibetans.

Moreover, the buildings of Phari Jong are being destroyed, and later, on the 5th of the 4th month, a Petition reached us from Phari Jong that Bell Sahib has ordered that the Chumbi people must on no account furnish transport to Chinese, Thibetans, and Bhutanese.

Now, we English and Thibetans here made an agreement that until the subsidy is paid the English Government will retain possession of the Chumbi Valley up to the water-parting as a pledge, and the Sahibs, when they were leaving here (Lhasa) made presents to the monasteries of Sera-Drebung, &c., and announced to the assembled officials that if the Treaty were adhered to it would be well, and sent a letter last year to say that the indemnity was reduced by 50 lakhs, and that the country (Chumbi) would be occupied for three years as you are aware, and when the English army was returning from Lhasa the General Sahib told the Phari Jongpens that they might collect taxes and administer justice, &c., as before, and after that you sent us a letter announcing the reduction of the indemnity, saying that now friendship had begun, and that now it would not be well to break it, and we on our side are doing all we can to preserve friendship, and when the Phari Jongpens were taking small dues on wool, yak tails, ponies, and mules, we gave them orders to stop doing so. On this account the Shape Yutob last year, while at Gyantse, held discussion with the Sahib, and the Sahib said that they should not take dues until the question of the trade marts and trade dues had been properly discussed.

Now, if the Phari and Chumbi peasants are not allowed to furnish free transport, taxes, and free labour, then the friendship between the two countries will be in danger, and all Thibetans are grieved at the idea. So we beg you, who have the interests of both parties at heart, to consider the matter very carefully, and to request Bell Sahib not to act thus, and to preserve matters as they were before.

Pray preserve your health.

Pray consider the interests of friendship between the two parties. I inclose a scarf and a piece of silk.

Dated the 14th day of the 5th month.

(Seal of the Kashakor Council.)

*Captain O'Connor to the Ti-Rimpoche.*

Your Holiness,

*Lhasa, June 25, 1905.*

I have received your letter, dated the 14th day of the 5th month, and am rejoiced to hear that you are in good health, and that your affairs are prospering. I, too, am well.

As regards the matter mentioned in your letter regarding Chumbi affairs and Phari Jong, I would refer your Holiness to clause 7 of the Treaty, where you will find it laid down that the British Government "shall continue to occupy the Chumbi Valley, &c.,"\* and the period of occupation has now been reduced to three years by the clemency of his Excellency the Viceroy. The occupation of Chumbi implies also administration and other rights, and the Indian Government cannot recognize the right of your Holiness' Government to raise any question or to make any objection regarding our proceedings in Chumbi during the three years during which we shall remain in occupation.

I inclose a scarf.

Dated the 23rd day, 4th month (25th June, 1905).

(Signed)

W. F. O'CONNOR, *Captain, R.A.,*  
*British Trade Agent.*

[Other inclosures not printed.]

\* Thibetan text of Treaty quoted here in Thibetan version.



No. 116.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 7.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 5th October, relative to the affairs of Thibet.

*India Office, November 6, 1905.*

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Inclosure 1 in No. 116.*Mr. White to Government of India.**Gyantse, August 10, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to send copy of a letter received by Captain O'Connor from Lhasa, regarding Chumbi, Mr. Wilton's passport, and the telegraph line.

2. As regards the Chumbi Valley, there is no doubt that the Thibetan authorities have no grounds for any complaint, as the terms of the Treaty are quite plain.

As regards their statement that General Macdonald told the Phari Jongpen they might collect taxes and administer justice, it may be ignored, as I do not think General Macdonald would ever have committed us by any such statement.

3. As regards Mr. Wilton's passport, I have already telegraphed, asking if Captain O'Connor should not ask again for it, and am of opinion that it will be granted if this is done, as the chief objection appears to be that they cannot manage the people through whose territory he would have to pass—an excuse which was made last year before they granted his former pass.

4. Their complaint regarding the telegraph line is quite frivolous, as I examined the position of the telegraph posts along the whole length of the line from Phari, and only a very few are in cultivations, and the whole amount of land occupied could only be a few square yards, and could be compensated for in money—a very small matter—and I would recommend Captain O'Connor's suggestion to allow the Jongpen to assess the damage.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 116.*Captain O'Connor to Mr. White.*

(Confidential.)

*Gyantse, July 28, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a translation of a letter received to-day from Lhasa, regarding which I have already telegraphed to you. The letter is written in a somewhat peremptory style, which it is impossible to represent exactly in translation.

2. As regards the matter of the telegraph wire referred to in this letter, I would mention that after the Yutok Shape, in an interview with me here, had raised the objection to the posts being planted in the fields, I went into the matter with the assistance of the Jongpen here, and found that the majority of the posts are not planted in fields, and that in the few cases where they are so placed the loss thus caused is infinitesimal, and that, moreover, the peasants themselves have no complaint whatever to make in the matter. I thought it unnecessary, therefore, to ask the Telegraph Department to go to the expense and trouble of moving posts in order to remedy this imaginary grievance. But as the question has been raised afresh, I would suggest that I should ask the Jongpen to inquire into the matter, and to make out a list showing the amount of cultivable land lost to various cultivators between here and Phari owing to the presence of posts in their fields, and that I should then be permitted to recompense the owners on this basis. The amount would be so small as scarcely to be worth considering; but its payment would remove the present chief complaint against the wire, and would be a simpler and cheaper solution of the difficulty than the moving of a number of posts.



## Inclosure 3 in No. 116.

*The Lhasa Government to Captain O'Connor.*

(Translation.)

July 28, 1905

WE trust that you are in good health and that your affairs are prospering. We here are well, and are occupied in our religious duties. We hear that in Chumbi and at Phari Bell Saheb is creating a number of new precedents, and we wrote to you before requesting that this might not be done, and we have received your reply to our letter, in which you say that, although, in accordance with the seventh clause of the Treaty, the British Government are to continue in occupation of the Chumbi Valley up to the water-parting until the payment of the indemnity, the Viceroy has been graciously pleased to order that the occupation shall only last for three years, and that we should understand that the term "occupation" implies the exercise of administrative rights, and that therefore for this period of three years the British Government will act according to their own will and pleasure in Chumbi up to the water-parting, and that the Thibetan Government should raise no objection to their doing so, and that the British Government cannot listen to any representations from us on the matter.

Regarding this, it is certainly so in the Treaty, which says that, until the indemnity is paid or the trade marts properly opened, whichever is latest, the British Government shall remain in occupation of the Chumbi Valley up to the water-parting. But after this his Excellency the Viceroy remitted 50 lakhs of the indemnity, and said that the payment of 25 lakhs would be sufficient, and that the British would return the Chumbi Valley to us after three years, and that the British would continue in occupation of the valley for three years as a pledge. Now there is nothing expressly laid down in the Treaty to the effect that the Thibetans are to collect taxes and administer justice (in Chumbi) as heretofore, but last year when the Sahebs were leaving Lhasa they made certain statements to the Representatives of Sera and Drepung monasteries; and after that General Macdonald told the two Phari Jongpens that they might collect taxes and administer justice as always before, as we remarked in our last letter to you. Well, if you do not now observe one word of what you promised before, it will be difficult for us afterwards to continue friendly relations. This being so, you will see that Mr. Bell's conduct in starting new departures regarding the land and peasants (of Chumbi) will do serious harm to the friendship of the two parties. So if you will issue instructions regarding these matters which lie between England and Thibet, then no disagreement is likely to arise. So please advise Mr. Bell at once.

We received a later letter from you, in which you informed us that Mr. Wilton was about to proceed to Batang in Kam via Tsetang and Gyamda. Now last year when you were leaving Lhasa Mr. Wilton said that he would proceed via Gyamda, although, the people of Kam and Kongbu being evil persons, we were unable to answer for their conduct. But as there is no great difference between the roads via Ko-me\* and A-te,\* and as Mr. Wilton said he must certainly go that way, the National Assembly furnished him with a passport. But when he left Lhasa he accompanied the rest back to Gyantse in the Tsang Province. And since then nothing more has been said on the matter; but the matter has apparently been borne in mind, and the conclusion has been arrived at that he (Mr. Wilton) should proceed by Tsetang and Gyamda, provinces of Thibet, to Batang. Now, on the one hand, we warned him last year that we could not be responsible if they (the Kambas, &c.), acted evilly; and besides this, on the other hand, there is nothing in the Treaty to say that foreigners may travel in Thibet as they choose. If you act thus, changing your minds, the other nations will insist upon doing the same. So it will not do for Mr. Wilton to come straight away (or immediately), and we beg you to pass on these warnings to him quickly.

Regarding the telegraph wire which has been made between the two countries, there are many travellers, and people good and bad passing to and fro, and it is a matter of great hardship for the peasants to keep a watch upon them. Now cases of cutting and breaking (the wire, &c.), are of very frequent occurrence, and if the telegraph wire is left as at present, the posts which are stuck in the peasants' fields (which afford the peasants their only means of subsistence) cause them great loss; and the work of guarding the line in places which are distant from the villages is very burdensome, and great trouble is caused to the peasants. For these reasons injury will

\* I do not know where Ko-me is. A-te is probably the district of A-te traversed by A. K.—  
W. F. O'CONNOR.



most certainly ensue to the friendship between Britain and Thibet. If it is possible to take down (*lit.* roll up) the wire, everybody will be glad, and it will be a charitable and good action. So we beg of you to consider the matter carefully and to take down the wire quickly.

We have given you this earnest warning regarding all the matters written above, in order that a fresh disturbance may not arise between the two countries, and we beg you to consider it very carefully.

Pray guard your health, and work for the good relations between England and Thibet. We inclose a scarf and send you two bricks of tea. Written on the 23rd day of the second 5th month (24th July).

(Seal of the Kashak or Council of Four Shape.)

Inclosure 4 in No. 116.

*Mr. White to Government of India.*

*Gangtok, August 23, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to report that, on my recent visit to Gyantse, I found that the Jong is being strongly and thoroughly rebuilt and fortified, and to inquire if the Government of India consider that this is in any way contrary to the spirit of Article VIII of the Treaty of 1904, in which "the Thibetan Government agrees to raze all forts and fortifications, and remove all armaments which might impede the course of free communication between the British frontier and the towns of Gyantse and Lhasa," and in view of the fact that the Agency is situated in the same place on which the Mission was camped when it was shelled from the Jong.

Inclosure 5 in No. 116.

*Mr. White to Government of India.*

*Darjeeling, September 18, 1905.*

IN continuation of my letter of the 23rd August, and your telegram of the 14th September, 1905, I have the honour to state that I am writing to Captain O'Connor for the explanation asked for, and for exact details of the extent to which the Gyantse Fort is being rebuilt. As, however, these answers will take some time to come, I send the following particulars, which are the result of observations during my visit:—

2. The entrance gate and approach on the south-east has not been rebuilt, but the débris is being removed preparatory to rebuilding. The greater portion of the middle buildings have already been rebuilt, and the buildings on the extreme summit of the rock are completed.

When I was there,\* the men were at work in the building and walls between these two on the south-west face at Chumbi.

Repairing work was also being carried out on the north-east face, where the approach road leads up from the village on that side.

3. The whole of the Jong is being thoroughly rebuilt, and the new work is very much stronger than the old, as the latter was full of cracks and in a very dilapidated condition, and thus will be more difficult to demolish, should it be found necessary to do so.

There were some hundreds of men at work when I was there. Captain O'Connor's reply will be forwarded as soon as received.

I append a sketch-map of the Jong.†

\* August 8 to 12, 1905.

† Not printed.



No. 117.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 7.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 7th November, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcutta.

*India Office, November 7, 1905.*

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Inclosure in No. 117.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*November 7, 1905.*

THIBET. Please refer to your telegram of the 17th October directing resumption of negotiations at Calcutta.

On the 25th October Wilton had an interview with Chang, in accordance with your instructions, and informed him that His Majesty's Minister at Peking had been instructed to intimate to the Chinese Government that continuance of negotiations would be useless, unless Chang had instructions to meet without delay the views of His Majesty's Government regarding the Agreement, and that he (Wilton) was accordingly authorized to state that the Government of India would advise His Majesty's Government at once to close the discussion, and to inform the Chinese Government that they preferred to dispense with Chinese adhesion, unless by the 30th October Chang received instructions to accept Agreement. Chang appeared to be surprised at the turn which negotiations had taken, and volunteered his private opinion that Chinese Government would not accept Agreement as drafted by us. He agreed to telegraph at once to Peking the communication which Wilton had made, but he stated that he had received no instructions whatever beyond receiving his plenipotentiary powers, which had been communicated to him by telegraph.

On the 30th October Wilton had a further interview with Chang; the latter, however, stated that his powers were so high that he would only communicate his answer to Fraser, the principal British Commissioner, in person, and he declined to give Wilton any reply, verbal or otherwise, as to whether Chinese Government had instructed him to meet our views. Thereupon Fraser was authorized to make to Chang through Wilton (he himself being on tour with me) a statement to the effect that he could proceed to Calcutta only if Chang were prepared to sign Agreement, omitting Article I, as originally drafted, that there was no use in making the long journey if Chang was not ready to give explicit undertaking to this effect, and that the Viceroy was prepared to report immediately to His Majesty's Government that negotiations had broken down.

A communication in this sense was accordingly addressed by Wilton to Chang, who replied to Fraser on the 2nd November to the effect that he had received a despatch from Mr. Wilton informing him that Fraser was only prepared to come to Calcutta on receiving Chang's assurance that he would sign Convention drawn up by Fraser with the omission of Article I; that there were many matters in connection with the proposed Convention which he desired to discuss with Fraser, and that he looked forward to meeting Fraser shortly in Calcutta for the purpose of such discussion.

This reply of Chang's is characteristic in its evasiveness, and I agree with the conclusion which Wilton has arrived at, viz., that Chang's intention is to protract negotiations until my departure from India, and that Chinese Government do not believe that His Majesty's Government will dispense with their adhesion to the Thibet Convention. It is therefore my duty to report that there is nothing to be gained by pursuing the discussion, and to advise that the action indicated in your telegram of the 17th October should now be taken, viz., that discussion should at once be closed by our Commissioner here and that Chinese Government should at the same time be informed by Sir E. Satow that His Majesty's Government see no advantage in continuing the negotiations, and prefer to dispense altogether with the adhesion of China. I consider it possible that Chinese Government, when they realize determination of His Majesty's Government, may yet yield, if such final



communication is made forthwith. I would accordingly suggest that Sir E. Satow should be confidentially informed that His Majesty's Government will accept immediate compliance on the part of China, provided that instructions to sign Agreement are telegraphed to Chang before the 18th November, the date on which I leave India.

No. 118.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 172.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, November 7, 1905.*

THIBET Adhesion Convention.

With reference to telegram of November 7 from the Viceroy of India. His Majesty's Government consider that, if discussion is closed without a meeting between Mr. Fraser and the Chinese Plenipotentiary the Chinese Government will have ground for complaint, and that the meeting, however inconvenient, should take place.

The Government of India have been so informed.

Inform Chinese Government that negotiations will be broken off and the Chinese adhesion dispensed with, unless Chang, at the meeting, accepts the draft Agreement, with the omission if necessary of clause 1.

You will be informed by the Government of India of the date of the meeting.

No. 119.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 8.)*

(No. 207.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, November 8, 1905.*

A PROTEST has been addressed to me by the Chinese Government against a visit which Captain O'Connor with thirty soldiers paid on the 14th September to a place the name of which I am unable to identify, on the pretext of worshipping a Buddha. They point out that the place in question is not situated upon the trade frontier, and that O'Connor's proceeding is an infringement of Treaty, though they omit to state of what Treaty it is an infringement.

What answer shall I send to the Chinese Government?

(Repeated to India.)

No. 120.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 9.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 8th instant, relative to the fortifications of Gyantse jong.

*India Office, November 8, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 120.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*November 8, 1905.*

THIBET. Please refer to your telegram of the 6th ultimo stating that the proposed reply to Thibetan Government is approved by His Majesty's Government, including communication as to fortifications at Gyantse. Captain O'Connor, in reply to request for an explanation why refortification of Gyantse jong had not been previously reported by him, reports that jong has now been rebuilt upon much the same lines as before we destroyed it, except that the loop-holed walls have not been constructed. He states, however, that in August 1904 the Thibetan delegates urged



jongs were not fortifications in the proper sense of the word; that they were necessary to Thibetan Government as head-quarters of district administration, and that they did not obstruct the road in any way; he further states that in consequence of these representations Younghusband decided that term "forts and fortifications" (*vide* Article VIII, of the Convention) did not include "jongs," and he adds that the Thibetan expression for "armaments" were expressly chosen so as to exclude the word "jong," with Younghusband's approval. He is of opinion that reference to rebuilding of Gyantse jong is certain to provoke accusation of breach of faith, and he strongly urges omission of it from our letter to the Thibetan Government.

We find it hard to believe that the thorough rebuilding of Gyantse jong in any fashion which would restore its offensive and defensive potentialities can have been contemplated by Younghusband, and we shall be glad if you will ascertain from him, before we proceed further, whether O'Connor is correct in his recollection of the alleged understanding, viz., that Thibetans are at liberty to rebuild the portions of the jongs which we destroyed, provided they do not fortify them by means of gun epaulements and loop-holed parapets.

No. 121.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 9.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 8th November, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcutta.

*India Office, November 9, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 121.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

November 8, 1905.

YOUR telegram of the 7th instant regarding the Thibet negotiations. His Majesty's Government consider that a meeting between Fraser and Chang is necessary, however inconvenient it may be. If the discussion is closed without a meeting between the two Commissioners, Chinese Government will have ground of complaint.

Date of meeting between Fraser and Chang should be communicated to His Majesty's Minister at Peking, who will be instructed to inform the Chinese Government that the negotiations will be broken off, and the adhesion of China dispensed with, unless Chang, on meeting Fraser, accepts our draft Agreement, with the omission, if necessary, of the first Article.

No. 122.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 10.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 9th November, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcutta.

Copies have been sent to the Defence Committee.

*India Office, November 10, 1905.*



## Inclosure in No. 122.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

November 9, 1905.

THIBET negotiations. Fraser will proceed to Calcutta, and will meet Chang on the 14th instant. Sir E. Satow informed by telegram to-day.

## No. 123.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 11.)*

(No. 209.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Peking, November 11, 1905.

THIBETAN Agreement.

Yesterday Natung was informed verbally in the sense of your Lordship's telegram No. 172.

To-day I am reminding Prince Ch'ing in a semi-official note of the message, reported in my telegram No. 177, which I conveyed to him on the 28th September, and repeated subsequently. See my telegram No. 186.

In conclusion, I have followed your Lordship's instructions by reproducing the declaration contained in the second paragraph of your telegram above mentioned.

The above has been repeated to the Viceroy of India.

## No. 124.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 14.)*

(No. 211.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Peking, November 14, 1905.

PLEASE refer to your Lordship's telegram No. 172 and my telegram No. 209 respecting Thibet.

Prince Ching has replied to my note of the 11th instant ignoring the categorical Declaration therein contained, and stating that the adhesion Agreement must still be discussed in order that a settlement may be reached. Prince Ching proceeds to add that as Mr. Fraser is returning to Calcutta he should continue to negotiate with Commissioner Chang, who has been appointed for that purpose, in an amicable spirit; he concludes by requesting that this answer may be communicated to His Majesty's Government.

(Repeated to India.)

## No. 125.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 14.)*

(No. 212.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Peking, November 14, 1905.

THIBET. The Wai-wu Pu communicated to me an Imperial Decree commanding that the indemnity of 1,200,000 taels which was to be paid by Thibet in consequence of the British expedition shall, in view of the poverty of the people, be paid by the Chinese Government, *i.e.*, they will pay it over to us direct for and on behalf of Thibet.

The note concludes with a statement that the first instalment will be paid at the due date.

I suggest for your Lordship's consideration that I should be instructed to inform the Chinese Government that we cannot receive payment from them.

(Repeated to India.)



No. 126.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 15, 1905.*

I AM directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to transmit to you herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, a copy of telegrams from his Majesty's Minister at Peking,\* reporting that the Chinese Government have made arrangements to pay direct to His Majesty's Government, on behalf of Thibet, the indemnity stipulated for under Article VI of the Convention between Great Britain and Thibet of 1904.

Lord Lansdowne feels some difficulty in advising as to the manner in which the offer of the Chinese Government might be dealt with.

It is on the one hand obvious that the indemnity was required of the Thibetans partly as a punitive measure and partly in order that by the annual payment of the necessary instalments they should formally recognize the binding nature of the obligations entered into by them towards the British Government. Should the annual instalments henceforth be paid by the Chinese Government the punitive effect of the indemnity will disappear, for it does not seem to Lord Lansdowne at all probable that the Chinese Government will be able or willing to recover from the Thibetan Government the sums paid on this account, and past experience has proved that it is not in the power of China to insist effectively on the fulfilment of the other stipulations of the Convention.

Lord Lansdowne feels no doubt that the proposal has been made by the Chinese Government with the object of re-establishing their theoretical right to supremacy over the Thibetan Government, and probably also with the object of insuring that the non-payment of the instalments at their due date shall not stand in the way of the retirement of the British forces. Irrespectively of these considerations, the refusal of the Chinese Government to adhere to the Thibetan Agreement makes it, Lord Lansdowne thinks, doubly difficult for us to entertain the offer, and upon this ground alone he considers that it should be rejected. For acceptance would be tantamount to admitting the intervention of China in relieving Thibet from this portion of her obligations while avoiding all responsibility for any other portion of the Convention.

Should the attitude of the Chinese Government undergo a change in consequence of our refusal, and should they intimate that they will adhere to the Agreement, the situation would no doubt be altered and might be reconsidered by His Majesty's Government. Having regard, however, to the complete inability shown by China in the past to exercise effectual control over the Thibetan authorities, it seems to Lord Lansdowne that it would be highly inadvisable to agree to any settlement which might be regarded as an admission that responsibility for the behaviour of the Thibetans would for the future rest upon the Chinese Government.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

No. 127.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 16.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 15th instant, relative to the Thibet negotiations at Calcutta.

*India Office, November 16, 1905.*

\* See Nos. 125 and 128.



Inclosure in No. 127.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

November 15, 1905.

NEGOTIATIONS with China as to Thibet Convention.

Fraser called privately on Chang on the 13th instant, the day after his arrival at Calcutta, and explained that his instructions were to meet the Chinese Plenipotentiary on the following day (14th) and ask for his formal decision as to whether he would sign the Convention drafted by us, either with or without Article I, and that, should Chang refuse to sign, the negotiations would be broken off, and His Majesty's Government would dispense with the adhesion of China to the Convention with Thibet. Chang replied evasively, ignoring the progress made in the negotiations with Tang, and repeating that he was instructed to go on negotiating for the amendment of the Thibet Convention. He would not say whether he was, or was not, in receipt of instructions from the Chinese Government to accept or refuse our Convention; and stated in conclusion that he could not sign any agreement which did not meet the wishes of the Chinese Government. On the 14th instant at noon the Chinese Commissioner and his suite were received officially at the Foreign Office by Fraser. In reply to formal question whether he would sign Convention, Chang declared that he was unable to do so. Fraser thereupon informed him officially that negotiations between them were at an end, and that he would report to his Government accordingly. The only course that now remains to His Majesty's Government, in my opinion, is to make official intimation to the Chinese Government through His Majesty's Minister at Peking to the effect that His Majesty's Government dispense with the adhesion of China to the Thibet Convention; that they nevertheless have always regarded and still regard that Convention as fully valid and complete in itself; and that they will themselves take such measures as they may find necessary for the execution of its terms without reference to the Chinese Government.

(Repeated to Peking.)

No. 128.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 16.)*

(No. 213.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Peking, November 16, 1905.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship with reference to my immediately preceding telegram, that I learn that the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank have been approached by the Board of Revenue to ascertain the terms on which they would be willing to remit two and a-half million rupees to Calcutta on account of the Thibetan indemnity, in three instalments beginning the 1st January, 1906.

(Repeated to India.)

No. 129.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 18.)*

(No. 319.)

My Lord,

Peking, September 29, 1905.

I TOOK an opportunity yesterday of conveying directly to Prince Ch'ing, whom I had not conversed with for some weeks, the sense of the instructions given to me in your Lordship's telegram of the 23rd July, namely, that should the Chinese Government not be prepared to accept the proposed Adhesion Agreement, I was to state definitely that His Majesty's Government were not disposed to make any modification in it, and that they would deem it preferable to rely upon the Convention with Thibet, dispensing altogether with the adhesion of China.

As your Lordship is aware from my despatch No. 299 of the 6th September, I had already made this statement in writing, but I thought it might be useful to repeat it to his Highness *viva voce*, as in his present position at the head of the Government he



is probably too busy to be able to give much attention to written documents. I inclose notes of the conversation which ensued.

I would observe that as long as Tang Shao-yi was at Calcutta there appeared to be no likelihood of any settlement being arrived at, for it was on his report that the Chinese Government decided not to instruct him to sign the Adhesion Agreement put before him by the Indian Government. Even if they had disapproved of his attitude, they would have hesitated to give him instructions in a contrary sense, as it is their habit to be guided by their Agents; nor do I think that Tang, who is an obstinate person with a will of his own, would have obeyed if they had told him to accept the Agreement. There are no signs either of their willingness to instruct Chang to go any further than his predecessor; and the Prince's statement that what was desired was some slight alteration in the wording of the draft is hardly to be taken in its literal sense. The probability is that just as his Highness thought that better terms could be secured by removing the negotiations to London or Peking, so he counts on being able to "screw something" out of a new Viceroy, to use a favourite Chinese expression. It seemed advisable, therefore, to emphasize the declaration of His Majesty's Government, already communicated to the Chinese Government, that, failing their acceptance of the text proposed to them, His Majesty's Government would prefer to rely on the Convention with Thibet.

In regard to the movements of the Dalai Lama, I wished to obtain confirmation of what was told me on a previous occasion by Natung, namely, that he would not be allowed to proceed further than Hsi-ning in the direction of Lhasa, but there was a young Chinese English-speaking interpreter present, and the Prince is too cautious to run the risk of information of a secret nature leaking out through subordinates of the Foreign Board. His statement that the Dalai Lama is at present in the territories of a Mongol Prince may perhaps be interpreted in the sense of the assurance given me by Natung. It seems unlikely that the Chinese Government should be desirous of facilitating Russian intrigue at Lhasa by unnecessarily hastening the Dalai Lama's return to his capital.

The information regarding a consignment of rifles under the escort of Russian Agents was given, as your Lordship will remember to Captain O'Connor by a Japanese named Teramoto. I learn from an excellent source that this person is a monk of the Nishi Hongwanji sect, who, after spending some years in Peking, where he studied Thibetan in the great lama monastery, set out not many months ago on a journey to Thibet. Whether he is an Agent of the Japanese Government, or merely an amateur collector of interesting news about Central Asian politics, I have not been able to discover.

A copy of this despatch will be sent to the Government of India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

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Inclosure in No. 129.

*Conversation between Sir E. Satow and Prince Ch'ing on September 28, 1905.*

SIR ERNEST mentioned that he had heard that Tang Shao-yi was leaving India.

His Highness said Tang was ill and that Chang Yin-tang had been appointed to relieve him.

Sir Ernest thought there would be a double inconvenience. Chang could do nothing until he was furnished with credentials, and, on the other hand, the present negotiator on the Indian side, who was an Acting Foreign Secretary, would be replaced in a month or so by the holder of the substantive post.

His Highness merely agreeing that Chang would have to carry on the discussion with a new negotiator, Sir Ernest said it was unfortunate that Tang had not signed.

His Highness recalled that he had proposed to remove the negotiations from Calcutta to either London or Peking, and that Sir Ernest had expressed an opinion unfavourable to that suggestion.

Sir Ernest replied that he had given the opinion by the instructions of His Majesty's Government, who were not prepared to make any alteration in the terms they had proposed.

His Highness remarked that some slight alteration in the wording of the proposed Arrangement was desired.



Moreover, in the event of non-observance of any Article of the Treaty, it will, from the very nature of the case, be within the power of the Indian Government to take any steps, whether by the occupation of the Chumbi Valley or otherwise, that may be necessary for the enforcement of their rights directly against the Thibetan Government or through the Chinese authorities, as may be found convenient.

I am to add that these views have not yet been communicated to the Government of India, or their opinion invited, pending a further intimation of Lord Lansdowne's conclusions.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) A. GODLEY.

No. 134.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 23.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of Gyantse Diary for the week ending the 24th September last.

Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

*India Office, November 22, 1905.*

Inclosure 1 in No. 134.

*Captain O'Connor to Government of India.*

(Confidential.)

*Shigatse, September 25, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my Diary for the week ending the 24th September, 1905.

Inclosure 2 in No 134.

*Diary of Captain O'Connor, British Trade Agent at Gyantse, for the week ending September 24, 1905.*

September 18, 1905.—The Jongpen called on me in the morning with reference to several minor local matters. He has sent word down the Shigatse road of my coming, and has instructed the various Headmen to have supplies ready for my party. I may mention here that he has made no further reference to the matter of granting subsidies to the various village Headmen between Phari and Gyantse for the protection of the telegraph wire, and as the payment of these subsidies was deferred at his request, and as no damage has been done to the line since I interviewed the various Headmen early in June, I propose to allow the matter to remain as it is, unless further damage should render further measures necessary.

September 19.—Captain Steen and I, with a small escort of mounted infantry, rode down to Dongtse, and lodged in the large Palha house there. Harvesting operations are now in full swing all down the valley. The head monks of the Dongtse Monastery called upon me with the usual small present of eggs and tea. The damage done to their temples during the military operations has now been to a great extent repaired, and the monks are very grateful for the small help I was able to give them out of the grant allowed for compensation by Government. The wife of the old Dongtse steward whom, together with his son, we had released from their twenty years' captivity at Lhasa also came to see me. The old woman is naturally very grateful for the help we gave her husband and son, and never fails to make her small offering when I stay at Dongtse. Another matter which has made us very popular in this part of Thibet is the action we took in procuring from the Lhasa Government a formal sanction for the reappearance on earth of the spirit of the Sengchen Lama, famous all over Thibet for his wisdom and piety, and who was disgraced and afterwards put to death by the Lhasa authorities as a punishment for befriending Sarat Chandra Das. The Tashi Lama has made arrangements for the



recognition of the Lama's spirit amongst certain newly-born children, of whom four at present are under observation. It is thought that the right incarnation will be found in a certain Mongol family of high rank. The reinstallation of this incarnation will be hailed with joy and gratitude in all the Province of Tsang, where the Sengchen Lama is second only to the Tashi Lama in sanctity.

*September 20.*—I visited the Gompa, and was glad to see that most of the damage done last year had now been put to rights. The old Abbot and nearly all the monks have come back and resumed their ordinary duties. We rode on and camped at the village of Nur-bu-kyongtse, after being entertained *en route* by the steward of the Ten-cho-ling Monastery.

*September 21.*—Camped at the village of Tsongdu, some 10 or 12 miles from Shigatse, and within sight of the big monastery and Jong. We found our old friend, the Khamba Jongpen, awaiting us here with scarves from the Tashi Lama and Prime Minister. I gave scarves in exchange, according to custom, and he rode away to inform the Lama that we should reach Shigatse the next day.

*September 22.*—We rode towards Shigatse, meeting everywhere with attention and civility from the villagers, whose Headmen turned out to show us the best road and the easiest crossings of the stream. About 2 miles from Shigatse we were met by the two Shigatse Jongpens, and half-a-mile further we found tents pitched, and were regaled with the usual buttered tea, &c., by two of the Tashi Lama's Chamberlains and other officials. Just outside the town three Chinese peons met us, with cards and greetings from the Chinese resident officials. We were accommodated in the same house as before, belonging to the Tashi Lama's mother. Immediately on arrival, the two Jongpens and the Tashi Lhumpo Treasurer waited on us, with some presents of grain, butter, tea, tangas, &c., of which lists will be forwarded separately, and the Gurkha Lieutenant called to pay his respects. We were then left alone till evening, when the Treasurer, Badula (an old Khamba Jong acquaintance), called and had tea with me. He manifested great curiosity to know the reason of my visit, which I have given out is merely a visit of ceremony to the Tashi Lama.

I hear that the Teling Depon, who has been staying here on his way from Lhasa to his estate near Khamba Jong, only knew of our projected arrival two days ago. He paid a farewell visit to the Tashi Lama the next day, and left hurriedly at an early hour this morning, with all his following. He is evidently not anxious to renew his acquaintance with us.

*September 23.*—At 12 noon the Prime Minister called, bringing with him some presents (list rendered separately), and we had a formal conversation of some half-an-hour's duration. I had arranged privately that no public mention should be made of the real object of my visit, but I told the Minister that I had come again to Shigatse for the purpose of paying a ceremonial visit to the Tashi Lama, and asked him to be so good as to arrange a day and hour. He replied that the next day at noon would suit the Lama, if also convenient to me, and it was so arranged. I then informed him of the conclusion of the Russo-Japanese war, and of the general terms of the Treaty. The Prime Minister asked me several questions regarding the Prince of Wales' visit to India, the distance from Shigatse to Darjeeling, and from Darjeeling to Calcutta, &c., and shortly took his leave.

In the evening my Thibetan clerk, Shabdung Lama, visited him at his own house by arrangement, and was at once sent for by the Tashi Lama, who was all impatience to learn the real reason of my visit to Shigatse. The clerk told him that it was with reference to the proposed invitation of the Lama to visit Calcutta, and that I had come to learn what the Lama's views on the matter really were before his Excellency the Viceroy issued the invitation. A long conversation followed, with the result that both the Lama and the Prime Minister (who was present) expressed their willingness to accept the invitation without reference to China, and after consultation with me. Both, however, said that, for the present, they desired to keep the whole matter perfectly secret. Besides themselves, no one else had the slightest inkling of the object of my visit, and they would prefer that no mention of the proposed invitation should be made in public. With this object in view, it was arranged that I should pay the Lama a formal public visit on the following day, and a private visit the day after, when he would learn my views and arrange such preliminaries as were possible at this stage.

*September 24.*—The Khamba Jongpen called on me early in the morning, and I had some conversation with him on general topics. He was very sarcastic with reference to the Teling Depon's rise to power. The Depon, he says, will first visit his own estate, and then proceed to Tingri, which is his nominal command, but will



proceed to Nyarong, in Eastern Thibet, as Commissioner next spring. The Jongpen gave me some further details regarding the party of refugees who have arrived at Nagchuka, to the north of Lhasa, of whom I have heard from several different sources. There appear to be some fifty of them altogether, including women and children, and they are said to be Chinese Mussulmans driven out of their own country by hardships caused by the Russo-Japanese war. The Thibetans, with their usual ignorance of geography, can give no further details regarding them, except that they have come from the north-east, and it is hard to imagine who they can be, except, perhaps, Mongols from the extreme north-east portions of Mongolia, which may have been overrun by Russian soldiers. They are anxious to be taken under the protection of the Lhasa Government, but do not seem to be of any political importance.

About 10 o'clock the Gurkha Lieutenant called again, bringing with him all the Nepali merchants resident in Shigatse, and I had a short conversation with him about trade matters, &c. I could not, however, say much, as I do not yet know whether the Nepalese Government approve of their traders using the Phari route, and am told that the Lieutenant here is averse to it, and wishes the traders to continue trading as before by routes leading directly into Nepal.

At 12 o'clock I rode down to the monastery on the outskirts of Gyantse where the Tashi Lama has his summer residence, and paid him a formal call. We were received exactly as before in all details with the greatest courtesy by the Lama. I presented him with a few photographs and some books of pictures, of which he is very fond, and informed him that I had come to Shigatse for the purpose of paying him a second visit. He asked me a few questions as to where the Viceroy was residing at present, when he would reach Calcutta, &c., and after exchanging with him a few complimentary expressions, he asked me to call again before I left Shigatse, and I took my leave. Before leaving the building I went in to see the Prime Minister in his own room, where we had a few minutes' general conversation.

During the afternoon the Tashi Lama's uncle (known as the "Jeji Kusho") and two or three other officials called on me, with small presents of grain, flour, and so on.

In the evening my Thibetan clerk again visited the Prime Minister and heard his views and those of the Lama with reference to a number of details regarding the proposed visit to Calcutta.

During my conversation with the Khamba Jongpen I learnt the following details regarding the Khamba district: This district, which is properly under the jurisdiction of Tashi Lhumpo, was virtually confiscated by the Lhasa Government shortly after we entered the Chumbi Valley two years ago, on the charge that the Tashi Lhumpo officials and Jongpen, in order to save their own skins, had prevailed upon us to make use of the Chumbi route in preference to that leading to Shigatse through the Khamba district. They appointed their own representative (one Chang-lo-kung) to supervise the district, and summoned the Jongpen to Lhasa to answer for his misdeeds. Luckily for the Jongpen, however, the British Mission reached Lhasa before they had time to proceed to the usual inquisitorial methods in vogue against political offenders, and the Jongpen returned to his district; but, owing to the presence there of the Lhasa official, he is now merely a cypher, and the administration of the Jong is conducted by Chang-lo-kung. The Kung is just now in Lhasa, and his servant or understrapper is in charge, whilst the Jongpen himself has been absent on some mission to Eastern Thibet. With reference to the matter of the stoppage of wool and other goods entering Sikkim, the Prime Minister tells me that he has inquired into the matter, and that, as long as the Lhasa representative remains at Khamba Jong, he is powerless to put things right. He has, however, referred the case to Lhasa for orders.

(Signed)

W. F. O'CONNOR.

Gyantse, September 25, 1905.

No. 135.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 24, 1905.*

I AM directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, containing the views of the Secretary of State for India as to the answer which should be made to the offer of the Chinese Government to pay direct



to this country, on behalf of Thibet, the indemnity stipulated for under Article VI of the Convention with Thibet of 1904.

In Lord Lansdowne's opinion it should be made clear in the communication which it is proposed to address to the Wai-wu Pu that His Majesty's Government cannot entertain their offer unless China adheres to the Convention in the form in which it is now presented, and that, if they accept payment of the Thibetan indemnity from China, they must not be understood to abate anything from their right to enforce the fulfilment of the terms of the Convention by such means as may be found convenient in the event of non-observance of any Article of the Treaty on the part of the Thibetans.

Subject to these considerations, Lord Lansdowne concurs in the terms of the communication which Mr. Brodrick proposes to submit to the Government of India.

I am, &c.

(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

No. 136.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 25.)*

(No. 223.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, November 25, 1905.*

I HAVE derived the conviction, from unofficial conversations initiated by Wu Ting-Fang and Tang Shao-Yi, that the termination of the negotiations with Chang on the subject of the Thibetan Agreement is much disconcerting the Chinese Government.

A suggestion was put forward by the latter that in order to arrive at a settlement he might be authorized by Prince Ch'ing to discuss with me.

To this I replied that I had received no instructions nor any information further than the fact of the communication made to Chang by Mr. Fraser. I said that there would be no use in bringing me any proposals for negotiating, but I added that I might transmit to His Majesty's Government for their consideration an offer to sign the draft as it stands, with if necessary the omission of clause 1.

I am of opinion that a wholesome effect will be produced on the Chinese Government by an adherence to a firm attitude on our part.

I have repeated the above to the Viceroy.

No. 137.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 25, 1905.*

I AM directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, the accompanying copy of a note from the Chinese Minister,\* together with a copy of a telegram from the Wai-wu Pu urging that the Government of India may be instructed to continue the negotiations at Calcutta for the adhesion of China to the Anglo-Thibetan Convention of 1904.

Lord Lansdowne proposes to reply to the Chinese Minister to the following effect: As long ago as the 23rd September, 1904, Prince Ch'ing informed His Majesty's Minister at Peking, in the course of a conversation respecting the Thibet Convention, that the Chinese Government only desired the addition of a clause embodying the declarations made by Sir F. Younghusband, which has allayed their anxiety in regard to the position of China as the Suzerain of Thibet, and the inclusion of some explanatory statement with reference to Article IX, which would enable China to meet any complaints of foreign Powers made on the ground that the Article in question constituted an infringement of the most-favoured-nation Article in their Treaties with China.

His Majesty's Government acceded to the wishes of the Chinese Government, as expressed by Prince Ch'ing, by including in the Adhesion Convention an Article recognizing China's suzerainty and a further stipulation giving the desired explanation of Article IX of the Thibet Convention. Subsequently, in deference to objections on the part of China to the former Article, His Majesty's Government consented to its omission on the understanding that the remaining Articles were accepted without alteration by the Chinese negotiator at Calcutta. They stated at the same time,

\* No. 130.



however, that they were not disposed to agree to any further modification, and before the meeting of Secretary Chang and Mr. Fraser, the British negotiator, on the 14th instant, Prince Ch'ing was informed by Sir E. Satow that, unless Chang at the meeting accepted the draft Agreement in its present shape, the negotiations would be broken off, and the adhesion of China be dispensed with. Finally, his Lordship proposes to inform Chang Ta-Jên that these negotiations, having been in progress since March last, no useful purpose would be served by continuing them, and that His Majesty's Government are therefore unable to send instructions to the British Commissioner in the sense desired by the Wai-wu Pu.

I am to request that you will inform Lord Lansdowne whether Mr. Brodrick concurs in the proposed answer to the Chinese Minister.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) F. H. VILLIERS.

No. 138.

*Sir E. Satow to the Marquess of Lansdowne.—(Received November 30.)*

(No. 228.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Peking, November 30, 1905.*

THIBET.

The Wai-wu Pu have addressed a semi-official note to me, in which they request that the Indian Government may be informed that the Chinese Government will refuse to recognize any agreement which the Tashi Lama may make, should he, on his visit to India, discuss any business matters.

I would suggest that some intimation, of the kind proposed by the Viceroy to the Secretary of State for India in the former's telegram of the 15th November in regard to the indemnity, would be useful, in view of the above-mentioned communication from the Foreign Board of the complaint made by the Chinese Government about the visit paid to the Tashi Lama by O'Connor (see my telegram No. 207 of the 8th instant), and of the announcement which the Chinese Government have made, that China will pay the indemnity (reported in my telegram No. 212 of the 14th instant), the object of which is to compel the Government of India to recognize the Chinese Government as sole intermediary between India and Thibet.

No. 139.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 1.)*

Sir,

*India Office, November 29, 1905.*

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Campbell's letter of the 9th instant, and to inclose, for the information of the Marquess of Lansdowne, copy of telegraphic correspondence with the Government of India on the subject of the protest made by the Chinese Government against the action of the British Trade Agent at Gyantse in visiting, in violation of Treaty, a place stated not to be "on the trade rules."

The last diary received from Captain O'Connor describes his visit to Shigatse, and shows that he was hospitably received by the Tashi Lama. Such a visit cannot, in Mr. Brodrick's opinion, be regarded as an infringement of the Thibet Convention or any other Treaty.

If the Treaty referred to in the protest is the Thibet Convention, Mr. Brodrick would observe that in this instance, as well as in the matter of the indemnity, the Chinese Government have, by their action, recognized its binding force.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) A. GODLEY.



Inclosure 1 in No. 139.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*India Office, November 10, 1905.*

THIBET. I shall be glad if you will furnish, with a view to reply to be made to Chinese Government, report on the subject of the telegram of the 8th instant from His Majesty's Minister at Peking.

Inclosure 2 in No. 139.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*November 21, 1905.*

THIBET. Please refer to the telegram of the 8th instant from His Majesty's Minister at Peking and your telegram of the 10th instant. Following telegraphic Report, dated the 12th instant, has been received from Captain O'Connor, in reply to inquiry as to course of events:—

“Chinese probably refer to visit which I paid to Shigatse, accompanied by Captain Steen and twelve mounted infantry. As regards the date, they must, I think, be mistaken, as it was not till the 19th September that I left Gyantse at all. Reason given publicly for my journey to Shigatse was not, of course, worship of Buddha, but visit of courtesy to the Tashi Lama and desire to purchase articles of Thibetan manufacture which I required.”

Delivery to Tashi Lama of invitation to visit Calcutta was real object of O'Connor's journey. This invitation has since been accepted.

(Repeated to Peking.)

No. 140.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 1.)*

Sir,

*India Office, November 30, 1905.*

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Campbell's two letters of the 25th instant as to the negotiations with the Chinese Government for their adherence to the Tibet Convention of 1904.

As regards the note from the Chinese Minister of the 17th instant, requesting that Mr. Fraser may be instructed to continue negotiations at Calcutta, it was stated in the Viceroy's telegram of the 15th instant that Mr. Fraser had informed Chang officially that, as the latter was unable to sign the Adhesion Agreement in the form in which it was presented, negotiations between them were concluded, and he would report accordingly to his Government. In these circumstances, and in view of Chang's statement reported in the Chinese note, that he had not been empowered to sign, but only to negotiate, Mr. Brodrick sees no advantage in continuing the negotiations at Calcutta, and concurs in the reply which Lord Lansdowne proposes to make to the Chinese Minister.

As regards the telegram from His Majesty's Minister at Peking of the 25th instant, I am to state that Mr. Brodrick concurs in the proposal to approve the terms of Sir E. Satow's reply to Tang Shaoyi's suggestion that the discussion should be continued at Peking.

With reference to the Chinese offer to pay the indemnity stipulated for in the Thibetan Convention direct to this country on behalf of the Thibetans, I am directed to inclose, for the information of Lord Lansdowne, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 26th instant, requesting the opinion of the Government of India on the views expressed in Mr. Campbell's letter of the 24th instant relative to the conditions on which the offer might be accepted.

I am, &c.

(Signed) A. GODLEY.



Inclosure in No. 140.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*India Office, November 26, 1905.*

**THIBET.**

With reference to the offer of the Chinese Government to pay indemnity on behalf of Thibetans, as reported in Sir E. Satow's telegram of the 14th instant, His Majesty's Government are disposed to inform the Chinese Government that unless they signify adhesion to Convention in the form in which it is now presented their offer cannot be entertained, and further that, in the event of offer being accepted by His Majesty's Government, the latter must not be understood to abate anything from their right to enforce, by such means as they may find convenient, fulfilment of terms of Convention should the Thibetans fail to observe any of its articles. Although discharge of indemnity by the Chinese would in a way secure Thibetans from the punitive effect of having to pay it themselves, yet it is probable that the moral effect of exacting payment from Thibet will be of far less value to the Government of India than relief from the necessity of attempting to enforce annually for twenty-five years a direct tribute. In the event of non-observance by Thibetans of any Article of the Convention, it will be within discretion of His Majesty's Government to take action, either through the Chinese Government or directly against Thibetans, whichever may be found most convenient.

I shall be glad to learn your views on the subject.

No. 141.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 1.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 28th November, relative to the fortifications of Gyantse.

*India Office, December 1, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 141.

*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*November 28, 1905*

YOUR telegram of the 8th instant as to Gyantse fortifications.

Please see your letter of the 6th October, 1904, to which Younghusband requests reference. He explains that on some subsequent occasion, probably while O'Connor, in conjunction with Thibetan Secretaries, was translating Convention into Thibetan, Thibetans asked that district officials might be allowed to reside in jongs, which were represented as being their official residences. O'Connor was authorized by Younghusband to state that he had no objection to district officials residing in jongs, should they desire to do so, after fortified portions had been destroyed by us. Younghusband adds, however, that he certainly gave no authority or countenance for re-erection of fortifications on the site of Gyantse jong. He points out that the word used in translating Article VIII of the Convention included all kinds of fortifications, although the particular word "jong" was not used; and he adds that, in any case, the annexure to Convention which declares English text binding settles the point.

Apparently the position is that we have a right to object to official residences being built in such a manner as to constitute fortifications, although we cannot take exception to erection of official residences proper. This distinction should be observed in wording any warning regarding fortifications which it may seem necessary to address to Thibetan Government in view of reports received from O'Connor as to the works which Thibetans are undertaking at Gyantse.



No. 142.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 1.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 30th November, relative to the Thibet indemnity.

*India Office, December 1, 1905.*

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Inclosure in No. 142.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

November 30, 1905.

YOUR telegram of the 26th instant regarding indemnity payable under Thibet Convention.

Annual payment by Thibetans in Thibet, even though China should provide the money, would, in the opinion of the Government of India, be preferable from point of view of local political effect, to payment of lump sum by China direct.

The course therefore which we are disposed to prefer is that a notification should first be made by us to Thibetans, under Article VI of the Convention, to the effect that we desire payment at Gyantse of the first instalment; and that His Majesty's Minister at Peking should then inform the Chinese Government that His Majesty's Government cannot recognize right of intervention on their part, as they have not adhered to the Convention. It will then be open to Chinese Government to offer to accept the draft which Chang has just refused to sign, and thus to regularize their position.

In the meantime, first instalment of indemnity would fall due for payment by Thibetans at Gyantse on the 1st January, 1906, and failure to pay would constitute a technical breach of the Treaty, which might be useful in certain contingencies; but even if Thibetans make default in payment we do not anticipate any trouble, as it would rest with us to take action, if and when convenient, for recovery of arrears.

It is worth mentioning that an informal letter from Chang was brought to Dane on the 17th instant by Henderson, Chang's assistant, in which it was stated that Chang had been requested by Chinese Amban at Lhasa to make inquiries as to the name of the official to whom indemnity should be paid, and as to place of payment. Dane suggested that Chang should address to Fraser, as British Commissioner, any inquiry which he wished to make regarding the Thibetan Convention, explaining that he (Dane) had no commission to negotiate with Chang. Henderson replied that the reference was not an official one, but that orders had been sent to Amban to issue a Proclamation, stating that Emperor of China had taken upon himself payment of indemnity, in consideration of the poverty of the people of Thibet arising out of the recent British expedition. Dane added that if Chang desired to address him officially as Foreign Secretary on any subject, full consideration would be given, under the orders of the Viceroy, to his communication.

(Repeated to Peking.)

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No. 143.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 2.)*

Sir,

*India Office, December 1, 1905.*

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Campbell's letter of the 24th ultimo respecting the offer of the Chinese Government to pay direct to this country, on behalf of Thibet, the indemnity stipulated for under Article VI of the Convention with Thibet of 1904.

In reply, I am directed to request that you will bring to the notice of the Marquess of Lansdowne the telegrams to and from the Government of India, which were inclosed in my letters of the 30th ultimo and 1st instant.

It will be seen that the Government of India would prefer an annual payment by

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the Thibetans in Thibet, even though with money provided by China; and they are disposed to notify the Thibetans under the above-mentioned Article that they desire payment of the first instalment at Gyantse (presumably on the 1st January next) before any reply is made to the Chinese Government.

Mr. Brodrick proposes, subject to Lord Lansdowne's concurrence, to approve the proposed notification to the Thibetans; and he considers that it may be made at once, irrespective of the action to be taken at Peking.

With regard to the Chinese offer, Mr. Brodrick is of opinion that the answer in the form proposed in the letter under reply may be returned to the Chinese Government. In the event of that Government signing the Adhesion Agreement, Mr. Brodrick does not consider it to be essential that the money should be in all cases paid at Gyantse, though the first instalment might be demanded there.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) A. GODLEY.

No. 144.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir E. Satow.*

(No. 184.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

*Foreign Office, December 2, 1905.*

THIBET Adhesion Convention.

I approve your answer to Tang, reported in your telegram No. 223 of the 25th ultimo.

No. 145.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 4.)*

Sir,

*India Office, December 4, 1905.*

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Brodrick to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Campbell's letter of the 1st December, relative to the negotiations for the adhesion of China to the Thibet Convention.

In reply I am to say that Mr. Brodrick understands that Sir E. Satow is being instructed to reply to the Wai-wu Pu as to the indemnity in accordance with the proposal in Mr. Campbell's letter of the 24th November. Should the Chinese Government still persist in their refusal to sign the Adhesion Agreement, Mr. Brodrick thinks that they may be informed, in accordance with the suggestion in Sir E. Satow's telegram of the 30th November, that His Majesty's Government see no advantage in continuing the negotiations, and prefer to dispense with the adhesion of China to the Thibet Convention; and that, consequently, they are unable to accept the offer of the Chinese Government to take upon itself the payment of the indemnity due from the Thibetans under Article VI of the Convention.

I am to add, with reference to the visit of the Tashi Lama to India, that the Government of India have been requested to report by telegraph whether the visit is more than a complimentary one.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) A. GODLEY.

No. 146.

*Foreign Office to India Office.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, December 4, 1905.*

I AM directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, stating that the Government of India propose to notify the Thibetans that they desire payment at Gyantse (presumably on the 1st January next) of the first instalment of the indemnity stipulated for under Article VI of the Convention with Thibet of 1904.



Lord Lansdowne concurs in Mr. Secretary Brodrick's proposal to approve the notification which the Government of India suggest that they should make to the Thibetans on the subject.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

No. 147.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 5.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy regarding the visit of the Tashi Lama to India.

*India Office, December 4, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 147.

*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*December 4, 1905.*

THIBET. Arrival has been reported of Tashi Lama at Darjeeling on the 29th instant. Attempt to prevent him from leaving Shigatse was made by Amban and Chinese officers there, but no opposition was offered *en route*; whole population of Gyantse, Chumbi, and Darjeeling turned out to welcome Lama and to receive his blessing, and his journey has partaken of the nature of a triumphal procession. Reports received from Chumbi state that three days after Tashi Lama had left valley Chinese official arrived bringing him orders from Amban; delay in dispatch of these orders was possibly intentional. Before proceeding to Calcutta, which he will reach on the 26th instant, Lama will first of all visit Buddhist shrines near Rawal Pindi; he will witness the review there, and will then pay visits to Sanchi (in Bhopal), Benares, and Gaya.

No. 148.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 8.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 9th November, relative to the affairs of Thibet.

*India Office, December 6, 1905.*

Inclosure in No. 148.

*Letter from the Nepalese Ambassador at Lhassa.*

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

ON Saturday, the 15th Sravan (29th July), while visiting the shrines of the gods, I called on the said Thirring Pochhe Lama, who in the course of the conversation informed me that he, having sent for the Kazis the other day, warned them against allowing matters to drift to undesirable ends through their dilatory habits in transacting business, as had been the case before, and told them that, although he for one had no concern to urge them on to their business, being himself only a lama who had renounced the world, yet, as it concerned the well-being of the people of the country, he could not remain to sit idle; that he wanted to inform them that he was going to the Amba to tell him that since His Majesty the Emperor of China had all along afforded them protection, and as it was upon them (the Chinese Amba) that they (the Thibetans) had depended and had



been so far depending, they were confidently waiting for a settlement being made by the Thang Tarin Amba, who had come to Calcutta for the purpose; that during the past year the British often wrote inviting the Thibetans to come to India, promising to do them good, but have now stopped writing so, and that he would beg to be informed whether any information was received from the Thang Tarin Amba and to be favoured with advice and instructions as to the best course to be adopted, as they have become apprehensive of the repetition of the last year's incidents; that on his making this proposal with the remark that if he were to go to the Amba without informing them (the Kazis) of it they might take it ill, and that though the time for the payment of the amount according to the terms of the Convention was drawing near, nothing had been done to arrange to meet this demand, the Kazis replied that he (Thirring Pochhe) might go and speak to the Amba the points contained in the first part of his proposal and ask him what information had been received from the Thang Tarin Amba, and also request him to bring about a speedy settlement, as the British were more and more getting vexatious over the matter, as it would enable them to consider whether they should act according to the trend of the Amba's opinion, and that this course appeared to them to be advisable, because were they to ask for instructions from the Amba as to how to proceed in the matter they would be placed in a delicate position, either to accept or reject the views of the Amba should they not coincide with their own, and also because for the present it would be sufficient to sound the Amba on this subject and in other points to speak as he (Thirring Pochhe) had suggested, and that with regard to the payment of the money to the British the Kazis thought that it would be advisable to follow the same plan of raising money from the public as was done on the occasion when the Nepali merchants were looted.

Thirring Pochhe Lama went on to say that the Kazis were neither for moving forward to come to an understanding nor did they care for the (loss of the income) of custom duties from the Phari side, but they proposed to raise the required amount from the poor people of the country, and although it struck him that this vexatious plan was not proper, still he did not express his real opinion to them; that after the Kazis had left he went over to the Amba's place and there had a talk with him as arranged above; that thereupon the Amba replied that some time ago Mr. Wilton had written to him (the Amba) on the advisability of his (Amba's) going to the frontier in connection with the matters relating to the Governments of Thibet and the British, and that the said Mr. Wilton had written so to him and also to them (the Thibetans), with a view that if they all went there he would be able to take advantage of their presence and have the matter settled to the best advantage of the British; that those British, being intensely selfish people, always trying to secure their objects by twisting and turning in various directions or different ways, should not be depended upon, and that he was of opinion that since a Representative had been sent by His Majesty the Emperor of China to directly move in the matter, if they were to go and interfere he would have grounds for complaining that it was the interference of the Thibetans and the Chinese Amba at Lhassa which had muddled the matter which he had gradually tried to bring to a satisfactory arrangement, in which case they would have to bear the responsibility of the whole blame; and so it would be better for them to leave the matter in the hands of the Thang Tarin Amba till it was known that the efforts of the said Thang Tarin Amba had failed to bring about an understanding in this matter, when they would make necessary representations to His Majesty the Emperor of China and do the needful; that consequently they, the Thibetans, need not get anxious over it and that he would communicate to the Thang Tarin Amba all the difficulties of the Thibetan Government; that when the Amba said so, he (Thirring Pochhe) came away, telling him that the Thibetans depended on his assurances, as the country belonged to the Emperor of China, and that they would look to his good offices to extricate the country from any difficulties should they ever arise. Thirring Pochhe Lama continued that when the Amba had said so, he (the Lama) could not say that their efforts would be unavailing; that a Chhongdui Council was in session that day; that he thought that as the Thibetans also were not in favour of sending Delegates to India and as their views on this point coincided with those of the Amba, the views of the latter would prevail in the end.

I replied that should the Ambas be able to arrange matters to the satisfaction of all the parties concerned nothing could be better than that, and that I had mooted the subject because I was afraid that matters might be spoilt by delays.



No. 149.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 8.)*

WITH reference to this Office letter of the 4th instant, the Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of the telegram to the Viceroy of the 2nd instant, together with his Excellency's reply, dated the 6th instant, relative to the visit of the Tashi Lama to India.

*India Office, December 7, 1905.*


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 Inclosure 1 in No. 149.
*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

December 2, 1905. ✓

THIBET. Is visit of Tashi Lama anything more than a complimentary one? See the telegram of the 30th ultimo from His Majesty's Minister at Peking.

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 Inclosure 2 in No. 149.
*Government of India to Mr. Brodrick.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

December 6, 1905. ✓

TASHI LAMA'S visit.

Please refer to your telegram of the 2nd instant and to Sir E. Satow's telegram of the 30th ultimo. Invitation to Lama was complimentary. In the event of his touching upon possible consequences of his acceptance of our invitation, or on any political questions, we will refer matter for orders of His Majesty's Government. Primary object of Lama's journey is to enable him to be present in Calcutta during visit of Prince of Wales. Lama is also anxious to see various Buddhist shrines in India; and it has, therefore, been arranged that he shall visit places mentioned in my telegram of the 4th instant as Government of India's guest. General question of invitation to Calcutta is discussed in third paragraph of Memorandum of information for October 1905, forwarded with Government of India letter of the 30th November. Further details will be found in Captain O'Connor's diaries inclosed in the following letters from the Foreign Secretary, dated respectively the 28th September, 12th October, 26th October, 23rd November, and 30th November.

(Repeated to Peking.)

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 No. 150.
*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 8.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Brodrick, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 6th December, relative to the Thibet Agreement and Indemnity.

*India Office, December 7, 1905.*


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 Inclosure in No. 150.
*Mr. Brodrick to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

December 6, 1905. ✓

YOUR telegram of the 30th ultimo regarding Thibetan Indemnity.

Proposed notification to Thibetans, under Article VI of Convention, that you desire first instalment to be paid on the 1st January at Gyantse is approved by His

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Majesty's Government. Instructions have been sent to Sir E. Satow, in reply to his telegram of the 14th November, that a communication in the sense indicated in my telegram of the 26th November should now be addressed by him to the Chinese Government, and that the intimation suggested in his telegram of the 30th November is to be made if they persist in their refusal to sign the Adhesion Agreement.

## No. 151.

*The Marquess of Lansdowne to Chang Ta-Jên.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, December 8, 1905.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 17th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a telegram from the Wai-wu Pu, in which they urge that the Government of India may be instructed to continue the negotiations at Calcutta for the adhesion of China to the Anglo-Thibetan Convention of 1904.

I have discussed the subject of your note with His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and I have the honour to point out to you that as long ago as the 23th September, 1904, Prince Ch'ing informed His Majesty's Minister at Peking, in the course of a conversation respecting the Thibetan Convention, that the Chinese Government only desired the addition of a clause embodying the declarations made by Sir F. Younghusband, which had allayed their anxiety with regard to the position of China as the suzerain of Thibet, and the inclusion of some explanatory statement with reference to Article IX, which would enable China to meet any complaints of foreign Powers which they might make on the ground that the Article in question constituted an infringement of the most-favoured-nation Article in their Treaties with China.

His Majesty's Government acceded to the wishes of the Chinese Government, as expressed by Prince Ch'ing, by including in the draft Adhesion Convention an Article recognizing China's suzerainty, while a further stipulation giving the desired explanation of Article IX of the Thibet Convention was also made. Subsequently, in deference to objections on the part of China to the former Article, His Majesty's Government consented to its omission on the understanding that the remaining Articles were accepted without alteration by the Chinese Negotiator at Calcutta. They stated at the same time, however, that they were not disposed to agree to any further modification, and before the meeting at Calcutta of Secretary Chang and Mr. Fraser, the British Negotiator, on the 14th ultimo, Prince Ch'ing was informed by Sir E. Satow that, unless Chang at the meeting accepted the draft Agreement in its present shape, the negotiations would be broken off, and the adhesion of China be dispensed with.

In these circumstances, and in view of the fact that these negotiations have been in progress since March last, His Majesty's Government are of opinion that no useful purpose would be served by continuing them, and they are therefore unable to send instructions to the British Commissioner in the sense desired by the Wai-wu Pu.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) LANSDOWNE.

## No. 152.

*Sir E. Satow to Sir E. Grey.—(Received December 25.)*

(No. 250.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

THIBET.

*Peking, December 25, 1905.*

With reference to the telegram of yesterday's date from the Government of India, suggesting that a snub be administered to Chang, I venture to suggest that nothing would be gained by so doing.

I have repeated this telegram to the Viceroy.



## No. 153.

*India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 27.)*

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of the telegrams relative to the termination of the Thibet Treaty negotiations at Calcutta.

*India Office, December 27, 1905.*

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Inclosure 1 in No. 153.

*Mr. Morley to Government of India.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*December 13, 1905.*

THIBET. In reply to Chinese note of the 17th November, asking that instructions might be sent to Government of India to continue negotiations at Calcutta, it was intimated to Chinese Minister, on the 8th December, that His Majesty's Government were unable to comply with their request.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 153.

*Government of India to Mr. Morley.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

*December 24, 1905.*

NEGOTIATIONS with China as to Thibet Treaty. Your telegram of the 13th instant. Should Chang's presence be ignored by us during visit of Prince of Wales? He is still in Calcutta.

(Repeated to Peking.)



Further Correspondence Respecting the Affairs of Thibet Part VI 1905. Apr. 1906. TS Political and Secret Department Records: Series 20: Political and Secret Department Library (1757-1952): Foreign Office Prints (1843-1937) IOR/L/PS/20/FO85/1. British Library. China and the Modern World, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/NOALGG516464835/CFER?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-CFER&xid=dac3adbc&pg=1](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/NOALGG516464835/CFER?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-CFER&xid=dac3adbc&pg=1). Accessed 21 Apr. 2022.